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AGAWAM

Advertiser News

MAY 10, 2012

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AGAWAM
SOFTBALL 16

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Cancer fundraisers creating a buzz around town

First Relay For Life of Agawam steps off May 19

By Mike Lydick

Turley Publications Correspondent

Agawam has been bustling with activity – from a local car show to trimming storefronts on Main Street in purple – as the town prepares for its first full-fledged American Cancer Society (ACS) Relay For Life event.

More than 150 participants from 18 teams have been out and about raising money for the upcoming Relay, which will be held at Agawam High School from 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 19 until 8 a.m. on Sunday, May 20.

During the 15-hour relay, teams will walk around the school's track – which will be illuminated at nightfall with hundreds of glowing white bags dedicated to those affected by cancer.

Please see RELAY FOR LIFE, page 8



Turley Publications photos by Mike Lydick

Sabrina Bolly (right), captain of Team Monarch, talks with Agawam residents Lynda De Palo (left) and Elizabeth Mikkelsen during a spaghetti supper at M&M's Restaurant recently. Bolly organized the supper to raise money for the Relay For Life of Agawam.



Left: "Kathy's Crusaders" team members (from left) Ashlee Montessi, Kathy Morace, and Danyel Morace show off some of the items they have been selling to raise money for the Relay For Life of Agawam.

Cop accidentally shoots woman

Placed on paid administrative leave

By Jennifer Wroblewski

Staff Writer

A 21-year-old woman was reportedly injured when an Agawam Police officer's weapon was discharged while officers from the department were responding to an early-morning call Saturday, May 5.

In a statement issued by Agawam Detective Lt. Richard Light,

officers responded to a call regarding a breaking and entry and possible domestic dispute at the Elizabeth Manor Apartments, 238 Maple St., Agawam around 4:30 a.m., May 5. The officers approached the residence and, while outside the apartment, could hear yelling and glass breaking coming

Please see COP, page 9

Postal food drive to benefit local pantry

By Jennifer Wroblewski

Staff Writer

Agawam letter carriers are hoping to stamp out hunger and help the community this Saturday, May 12, as part of the National Association of Letter Carrier's (NALC) annual food drive. Food donations collected in Agawam will benefit Best Life Food Ministry located in Bethany Assembly of God, ac-

cording to Bethany Executive Pastor Tim Reed.

Best Life Food Ministry has been the local beneficiary of the drive in Agawam for nearly 10 years, he said, adding, throughout the years, the community has supported the program, though some years are better than others.

"At times, it's been wonderful, but at other times, it's not so good,"

Please see PANTRY, page 8

Marveling at super opportunity

Feeding Hills man has cameo in movie

By Jennifer Wroblewski

Staff Writer

AGAWAM - Patrick McColley has always been a fan of comic books, ever since he was little and his grandparents would purchase used comics for him at garage sales. His love for super heroes only grew as he got older as he would visit comic book stores with his father.

So it was only natural that McColley, born in New York and now a resident of Feeding Hills, should choose a comic book character as the inspiration for his first tattoo – the Captain America shield on his left arm – which has garnered him a special cameo in *Marvel's The Avengers* movie. The superhero team-up opened at the box office May 4.

According to McColley, Captain America is a "great hero," although he has no real super power. He does, however, have strength, endurance, agility, speed, reflexes, durability, and healing that far exceed natural human potential. His most prevalent (and recognizable) weapon is his indestructible disc-shaped shield.

It is that symbol of Captain America that McColley decided



Turley Publications courtesy photo

This Captain America shield – designed by Feeding Hills resident Patrick McColley – has a cameo in the new superhero film, *Marvel's The Avengers*, which opened May 4.

to have etched onto his arm in 2009.

A graphic designer, McColley designed the shield he wanted after careful research. It looks three dimensional, war-torn and cracked, he said.

"I wanted it to look like the shield, which is rounded like a Frisbee," McColley said by way of explanation, adding he wanted

to look like it had texture to it; as if it was used in battle.

Jennifer McColley took a video of Connecticut-based tattoo artist Alex Vidaud bringing McColley's vision to life and posted it on YouTube.

Though the tattoo itself took roughly two hours to complete, the video lasts only a minute and a half.

After it was posted online, McColley was contacted by a woman from Marvel who requested his permission to use the clip in one of their movies.

"There was no explanation," he said, though he added, "When they first notified me, I knew it was actually from Marvel because of the email address."

He first read the agreement Marvel sent to him on his iPhone and, because he was skimming the document, missed the movie for which they intended to use the clip.

When he reread it and saw *The Avengers*, he was shocked.

"That just made my jaw drop,"

Please see MARVEL, page 6





SPRING BLOOMS

Turley Publications photo by
Connie J. Casagrande

The season of spring is upon us and residents here have been busy tending to local flower and vegetable gardens thanks to area establishments like E. Cecchi Farm in Feeding Hills. Do you have your own spring photo to share? Send it to Agawam Advertiser News Editor Jennifer Wroblewski at jwroblewski@turley.com.

Happy Mother's Day

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WHERE IS IT?

Each week *Agawam Advertiser News* will feature a photo of a local building, item, sign, place or landmark and ask readers to pick their brains to figure out where it is or even what it is. Check here each week to test your knowledge of the area where we live and work. The photo will be from either Agawam or Feeding Hills, but we'll always give you a hint or two.

The answer to this week's "Where is it?" will run in next week's edition along with the name of the first person to submit a correct answer and a new trivia photo for you to consider.

E-mail answers or future Where Is It? suggestions to editor Jennifer Wroblewski at jwroblewski@turley.com.



Turley Publications photo by Connie J. Casagrande

You can buy almost anything at this local establishment. Tell us – do you know where it is?

Last week's photo: Correctly guessing V&F Auto located on Springfield Street were Janet Kopycinski and Bill Hayes, both of Agawam, and Joe Joniec of Feeding Hills.





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Boldyga votes to create emergency response plans in schools

BOSTON – State Rep. Nicholas A. Boldyga, R-Southwick, joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts House of Representatives in passing legislation that calls for school committees and trustees to create and implement an emergency medical response system at their institutions. This important piece of legislation will apply to Massachusetts’ public and charter schools.

“It is important that we identify and utilize all available resources to create a safe environment for students when emergencies arise,” said Boldyga, a member of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee.

“Implementing an emergency response system in schools will minimize the number of injuries and deaths that could occur. While it is impossible to predict future emergencies,” he said, “establishing a workable plan of action allows for the greatest chance of limiting tragedies and ensuring a safe and successful outcome.”

State Senate approves ‘The Valor Act’

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Senate unanimously passed “The Valor Act” last week, new legislation that will expand benefits and increase access to a range of services for veterans, active-duty military and their families, according to Sen. James T. Welch, D-West Springfield.

“I am proud that Massachusetts prioritizes programs that support the men and women who serve our country and their families,” said Welch. “I think it is important for us to show our appreciation for the sacrifices our service members make.”

The bill works on many fronts to help veterans and active military members improve business, educational and housing opportunities. For example, through the formation of public/private partnerships, it facilitates seed money for the start-up and expansion of veteran-owned businesses. It also promotes the participation of disabled-veteran business owners in public construction and design projects.

The legislation also removes certain educational obstacles by requiring the state’s public institutions of higher learning to adopt new policies and procedures for awarding proper academic credit for a student’s prior military training, coursework and experience.

The bill also makes it easier for the children of military personnel to transfer between school districts and states, joining 42 other states in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

To help ease the costs of housing, utilities, medical services and food for Gold Star Families, the bill expands eligibility for the Massachusetts Military Family Relief Fund. It also eliminates the \$2,500 Property Tax Exemption Cap for Gold Star Spouses.

The bill also helps the courts better recognize veterans issues by making sure veterans and service members facing criminal complaints have a properly recorded military history and are considered for diversion and treatment options if eligible.

CAPTURE
the Moment

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AA



CITY COUNCIL NOTEBOOK

By Jennifer Wroblewski
Staff Writer

Residents appointed to serve on town boards

At its brief meeting Monday, May 7, the Agawam City Council approved the appointments of four residents to serve on various boards in town.

Marilyn Curry of Beekman Drive, Agawam, was unanimously re-appointed to the Whiting Street and Thomas Pyne Fund for a term to expire Dec. 31, 2015.

Doreen Prouty of South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, was appointed to a three-year term on the Community Preservation Committee, replacing park and recreation appointee Thomas Tierney, whose term expired April 30.

Timothy P. McGrew of Red Fox Drive, Feeding Hills, and Mario Tedeschi Jr. were appointed to the Agawam Board of Registrars for a three-year term, both to expire April 1, 2015.

Councilors Joseph Mineo and Donald Rheault were absent.

Sewer abatements tabled, withdrawn

Four out of the six sewer abatement requests that the city council has been looking into over the last few months remain on the council table after Monday’s meeting.

One abatement redetermination, extension or deferral of sewer betterment assessment – requested by St. Anne’s for property located at South Westfield Street in Feeding Hills – was denied by a 9-0 vote. Council administrative committee chairman Robert Rossi said the subcommittee discussed the request and decided that the abatements were made correctly and recommended the council deny the request.

Another abatement requested by Michael C. and Donna M. Davis, for property located at 582 South Westfield St., was withdrawn by the applicant.

Other council news

A public hearing will be held June 4 for the fiscal year 2013-2017 Capitol Improvement Program. The Capital Improvement Program is a prioritized plan of proposed capital improvements over the next five fiscal years, according to information obtained from Mayor Richard A. Cohen.

It provides for the planning, design, construction, reconstruction, renovation or replacement of a public building or facility; an addition to a public building or facility; the purchase of land, buildings, or facilities for a public purpose, or a long range development study.

While the type of improvement is the basic criteria, a project costing at least \$20,000 that has a life expectancy of 10 years or more is generally considered to be a capital improvement.

School records notice

Anyone who may have left the Agawam School System while attending Agawam Middle School, now the Roberta G. Doering School, with a date of birth prior to 1987 please note, your temporary records are scheduled to be

destroyed on or about June 15. To have these records returned to you, call the school office at 789-1400 ext. 7404 or email swieners@agawampublicschools.org with your name and mailing address by June 1.

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Opinion

Students ace spelling challenge

Kudos to those students who participated in the 20th annual Agawam Town Spelling Bee Friday, May 4 and to the members of the GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club for organizing the event.

A total of 39 students – 13 fourth graders from James Clark, Clifford M. Granger, Benjamin J. Phelps and Robinson Park elementary schools, and 14 fifth graders and 12 sixth graders from Roberta G. Doering School competed in the annual spelling bee after each student won his or her own class contest, according to Donna Shibley, a GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club member who acted as moderator for the event.

The spelling bee included retired Agawam Junior High School teachers Kathy Mounemneh, Theresa Ciarmatori and Donna Watson as judges and *Agawam Advertiser News* Editor Jennifer Wroblewski as pronouncer.

The words increased with difficulty with each grade (from the likes of "fruit," "aviator" and "imaginary" for the fourth grade to "periphery," "reticence" and "pentathlon" for the sixth grade), but the students rose to the challenge. The fourth graders, in particular, dazzled the audience with their spelling proficiency and went several rounds before the first contestant was eliminated.

We commend the junior women's club for organizing the spelling bee for the last two decades, for it affords students the ability to demonstrate their spelling skills while also giving them the chance to compete for cash prizes this year generously donated by Westfield Bank.

The GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club was organized in 1957. It looks to advance public welfare and promote civic and cultural interests.

In addition to the spelling be, the club is responsible for a fashion show fundraiser (this year, it was held April 15 at Chez Josef); a scholarship program for Agawam students who will attend a two- or four-year college following high school graduation; the safety bug program for children entering kindergarden to learn the proper way to approach/board/ride a school bus; breakfast with santa and a holiday homes tour.

The GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts, Junior Membership.

The club welcomes new members. Anyone interested in joining may visit www.agawamgfwc.com for more information.



Letters to the Editor

Local club appreciates support

To the editor:

The Agawam Lioness Club would like to thank you for your continued editorial support. Your generosity has made it possible for us to succeed in our fundraising endeavors and to be able to continue to support various local organizations for the sight impaired, as well as giving three scholarships to graduating seniors of Agawam High School.

We hope we can count on your continued assistance to make our programs a success. Thank you again.

The Agawam Lioness Club

Fundraiser a success thanks to area businesses

To the editor:

The Granger School PTO would like to recognize and thank JJ Soft Serve 2 and

E.B's Restaurant for their donations and support of our first ice cream fundraiser on May 4. Approximately 150 students, friends and family enjoyed building their own sundaes and playing on the Granger playground. This event was a huge success due to the support of E.B's and JJ Soft Serve.

Michelle Connery
Granger PTO



Here's to the lessons Mom taught me

I don't thank her enough for all she's done for me.

My mother is the unsung heroine in my life. She's the one who, throughout my years, was tasked with teaching me to be independent and self-sufficient – not easy values to instill in someone who, as a twin, is genetically pre-determined to be co-dependent.

It was she who taught me to work hard, to be kind and generous to others, to love animals, and who – ultimately – brought me to Western Mass., where she grew up. Whether she knows it or not, my mother is my guiding force, and I'll always be thankful for the lessons she's instilled in me over the course of two decades.

My mom taught me to survive. Literally... if not for her homemade baked macaroni and cheese recipe (which uses a whole pound of pasta and can feed one person for an entire week; trust me, I know from experience), I probably wouldn't have made it on my own for this long; I'd have starved.

Needless to say, I'm not much of a cook (knives have no business being in my hands). Culinary proficiency — deficiency? — aside, I can boil water to cook pasta and I'm a veritable cheese connoisseur, so Mom's mac and cheese is a staple of my household. It's the epitome of comfort food for me: it reminds me of home and, when I make it, I know I'll have at least one big meal for three to four days, providing I can exercise restraint and use portion control, but I digress.

Where my father taught me things like math and

science (he can't have done an outstanding job because both still escape me today), Mom taught me life lessons like, "The Golden Rule" (the reason behind my people-pleasing nature since I fear karmic retribution); to respect my elders (the value of which I understand now that I'm an "elder" to a whole generation); to appreciate reading; to always be aware of my surroundings and more.

It's my mom whom I credit for the life path I've chosen: becoming a reporter and, most recently, a part-time library staff member. Growing up, she used to take me and my brother to the library almost weekly to choose an assortment of picture books to take home. As I got older, she made sure I was entrenched in books, whether borrowed from the library or purchased from one of several now-defunct bookstores back home.

The long and short of it is Mom taught me to

love reading (and by extension, writing), and now, that's how I make my living.

If you ask my dad, he'll say I've inherited a lot of the qualities my mother possesses and the older I get, the more I agree.

Last year for example, Mom handed me a picture and asked me what I thought of it. The woman in the photo had dark wavy hair and was wearing a swimsuit, standing on the beach by the water.

I racked my brain. "When did I take that picture," I asked her, completely flummoxed.

"That's not you; that's me," she said, laughing.

The resemblance was uncanny. That's genetics for you.

I've also inherited her persistence, her love for animals, and her disdain for snow.

I guess Dad had it right all along: "You're like a mini-Mom," he always told me growing up.

I argued with him then, but now I can't help but think: here's hoping.



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The day we tore the goal post down

The spring is tag sale season. All winter the tag sale junkies have been waiting for some good weather to get out of the house on a Saturday morning to find those items you really need at, hopefully, bargain prices. Maybe you already have one but what if it breaks. Then you need a back-up. Good theory if you can stick to it. Unfortunately, for myself, I end up with seven snow shovels, five gardening trowels and four catspaws for removing nails. God, please grant me the years to use them all in my lifetime.

About a month ago on Edward Street, at one of the season's first estate sales, I was about to check out and pay for a few items which I'm sure I really needed. Another book that may never get read and a tool or two that I already have. Surely the grandchildren will be glad to get them someday. As I was paying for my bargains, my neighbor Russ Petrucci came over with a block of wood. He handed it to me and said he found it upstairs and thought I might like to buy it. "Upstairs?" I replied. Russ explained that the house had two bedrooms up from the stairs in the front of the house. Tag sale experts know better than my stupidity. You always ask or look for cellars, sheds, garages or in this case, the upstairs.

Painted in one corner of the block of

YESTERDAY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

WALT WILLARD
ADVERTISER NEWS COLUMNIST

wood was the number 53. Below it was Agawam - 34 West Side - 21. Rotating the block revealed over 30 signatures, some printed - Sonny and Bob Mercadante, Rich Jabry, Bubby Cesan, Jim O'Keefe, Doug Neilson, Frank Kinsley, Roger Leclerc, John Cardone, Chick Mitchell, Andy Anderson, Zeke Rivers, Phil Cardone, Bob DeGeorge, Charlie Robinson, Dick Dilullo, Stan Drzyzga, Bob Clampit, Tom O'Keefe, John Martino, Chet Krygowski, Buzzy Williams, Turk Bruno, Bill Munsell, Joe Pisano, Billy McGuire, "Red" Monaghan, Dan Molta, "Skip" Sharpe, Ricky Stahle, Roland Banville and Bruce Cobb.

Yes, Russ, I would like to buy it. "How much for this block of wood?" I asked. "A dollar," replied the estate woman. A dollar for a piece of history, a piece of wood touched by over 30 of our best Brownies. A block of wood that could have ended up in a trash bag had it not been for Russ Petrucci.

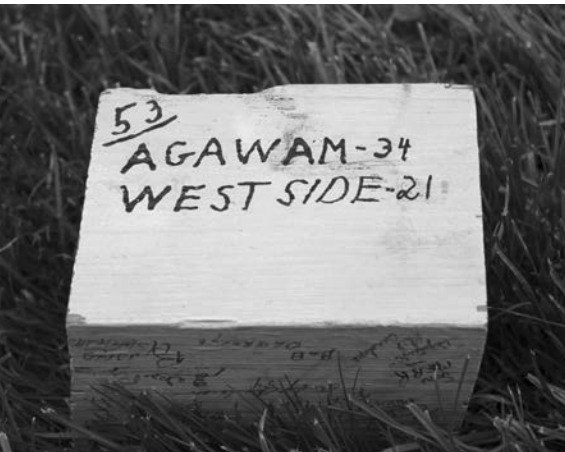
The next day I brought the block to Roger Leclerc. He explained that the block was not just a block of wood but a piece of the goal post torn down when we beat West Side in the fall of 1953. Somebody cut up a section and had given every player a piece. My piece once belonged to Bruce Cobb '58 whose dad owned the home at 95 Edward St. Bruce was

only an eighth-grader on the team in '53 but he must have learned how to play center by watching Roger Leclerc '54, who in the fall of '53 was named First Team All-W Mass. Four years later in 1957, Bruce (a center) was chosen for the same honor along with his teammates Fred Uschmann, Joe Voislow and Turk Bruno. Agawam won the '57 Western Mass AA Conference championship behind Jim (Turk) Bruno's record-setting 174 points, which surpassed Joe Pisano's total of 152.

Turk Bruno had a career in education, eventually retiring as our superintendent of schools. Bruce Cobb passed away at a rela-

tively young age about 28 years ago. Thanks to Russ Petrucci, Bruce's piece of the goal post is in good hands and if all goes well, will someday be in the library showcase for everyone to see. Call me if you'd like to see it before then. Perhaps you remember some of the words to the 1955 hit song by the Four Lads...."The day we tore the goal post down, we will have these moments to remember!"

EDITOR'S NOTE: Walt Willard went to AHS and taught math there for 16 years. He can be reached at 786-7924. Call him. Walt loves your feedback and any and all information or tidbits you can offer.



A piece of the goal post torn down when Agawam beat West Side in the fall of 1953.



Bruce Cobb

Soil testing, gardening advice at Agawam library

Western Mass Master Gardener Association members will be at the Agawam Public Library Saturdays, May 12 and 26, June 2 and 9 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. to answer gardening questions and test soil samples on-site for pH levels.

To take a proper soil sample, dig a hole 6 to 8 inches deep (3 to 4 inches for lawns) and set the soil aside. Using

a clean trowel, take a thin vertical slice from the side of the hole and place it in a container. Take at least five samples from the test area and mix them together in a clean container. Place ½-cup of the soil in a plastic bag and label it "flower bed, lawn, vegetable garden," etc. Avoid taking samples from soil that has recently been limed or fertilized.

Rotary Club to host JA rep

The Agawam Rotary Club will meet Wednesday, May 16 at 12:15 p.m. at Storowton Tavern for lunch. Guest speaker will be Jenifer Connolly of Junior Achievement.

As Rotarians, they sponsor local schol-

arships and charities and raise money for local, national, and international service projects, including the worldwide elimination of polio and providing clean drinking water. For more information on Rotary International, visit rotary.org.



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Nice large ranch style house in Feeding Hills section of Agawam with a large master bedroom with skylight and hardwood floors. Formal dining room, large living room with sliders to deck. Finished basement. Many updates like heating system, hot water tank, recently painted walls and ceilings. Close to Robinson State Park. #1353769



\$169,900
Affordable living in Agawam awaits with this ranch. Situated on a tree lined quiet street this home boasts 3-bedrooms & full bath. Updates include a 2-yr old roof. Enjoy peace and quiet of the neighborhood from your backyard. Perfect for first time home owner or someone looking to downsize. #1379350



\$365,000
This exceptional 8-rm, 3-bdrm, 2.5 bath col defines move-in condition! Pride of ownership throughout & simply the best value currently in Agawam. Situated on a cul-de-sac st in a quiet residential area yet close to local amenities & Rt. 57. Relax on the rear deck & enjoy the large landscaped yard. Boasting a 1st flr laundry, large updated kitchen, tile & hardwood flrs, gas fire place & large master bdrm. The finished basement is best described as impressive! Affordable quality in Agawam awaits! #1345999



\$324,900
Many pleasant surprises are found in this beautiful 5-bed, 3.5-bath one time ranch now expanded colonial. 2-bdrms are on the 1st floor and the remaining 3 on the 2nd floor. The 1st floor defines wide open floor plan with an incredible front entry room. The completely renovated kitchen is off the back of the home giving more room. This home was designed to utilized space to the fullest. Closets galore, huge basement, 2-concrete patios, a rear garage door, fenced in yard and so on. #1313179



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Seniors

Senior Center’s weekly calendar of events

Monday, May 14: 8:15 a.m., Weight Training, Yoga); 9 a.m.-Noon, Fitness Balance Seminar (by appt); 9:30 a.m., Line Dancing; 10 a.m., Fallon Ins. Meeting; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., Bingo; 3:30 p.m., Theater Group Rehearsal; 5 p.m., Zumba with Donna.

Tuesday, May 15: 9 a.m., Exercise, Knitting, Sewing; 9:30 a.m., Shuffleboard Begins (St. John’s Field); 10 a.m., Chair Exercise; 12:30 p.m., Ladies Billiards, Mah Jongg, Movie (“Dolphin Tale”); 2:30 p.m., Chorus; 4 p.m., ADA Meeting; 4:15 p.m., Yoga; 6 p.m., Beginners Line Dancing; 6:30 p.m., Evening Sewing Class.

Wednesday, May 16: 8:15 a.m., Weight Training, Yoga; 8:30 a.m., Meet the Mayor; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Ballroom Dancing, Beginners Computer Class; 1:30 p.m., Chapter 2 Meeting; 5 p.m., Zumba with Donna; 6 p.m., Guys & Dolls Billiard Club.

Thursday, May 17: 8:30 a.m., Foot Care (by appt.); 9 a.m., Exercise; 9:30 a.m., Quilting; 10 a.m., Line Dancing II; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Pitch, Blood Pressure Check; 1:30 p.m., Open Art Class; 2 p.m., Melody Band; 6:30 p.m., Pitch; 7 p.m., Autism Support Group.

Friday, May 18: 8:30 a.m., Tap Class; 9:15 a.m., Oil Painting; 9:30 a.m., Hand and Foot Card Game, Tai Chi; 11:15 a.m., Yoga; 11:30 a.m., Office Hours w/Rep. Boldyga; Noon, Canasta; 1 p.m., Cribbage, Internet Class; 5 p.m., Zumba with Donna; 6 p.m., Homeless Cat Project Fundraiser.

Agawam Senior Center lunch menu

Monday, May 14: Hamburger with fried peppers and onions, macaroni salad, pears.

Tuesday, May 15: Roast pork, roasted potatoes and carrots, applesauce, pudding.

Wednesday, May 16: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, mandarin oranges (\$3).

Thursday, May 17: Chicken tetrazzini over egg noodles, mixed vegetables, baked good.

Friday, May 18: Corn chowder, fish and cheese sandwich, beet salad, peaches.

Feeding Hills man has cameo in new movie

MARVEL, from page 1

he explained. “This movie is the first of its kinds in that they brought all the characters together. They took a big risk in making this movie and they did it very well.”

Indeed, Marvel had been hinting at the possibility of an Avengers movie since *Iron Man* debuted in theaters in 2008.

When *Marvel’s The Avengers* premiered in theaters May 4, McColley was in line for the midnight showing with his wife, two friends and a crowd of fans.

His cameo came during a video montage at the end and lasts roughly 30 seconds, he said, adding he felt “sheer surprise,” not only at how much of the video they used, but by the fact that they also included his face.

“In the scene with my face, you don’t get a good view of my tattoo,” he said. They edited his video in such a way that it includes both a wide shot of him and the tattoo itself.

Not only is he featured – however briefly – in the movie, McColley and his wife also received film credits at the end.

“We read it line by line until we saw it,” he said. “That far outweighs any compensation.”

His cameo in the film means McColley met his goal.

“When I was researching my tattoo [online] and trying to see what it would look like on my arm, I didn’t find anything that I liked,” he said. He wanted people to be able to find his video clip if they did an Internet search. Images of the tattoo were posted on the photo sharing website Flickr as well as Vidaud’s website in addition to the video that was uploaded to YouTube.

“I wanted to make sure it was found and Marvel found it,” he said.

As a result, this movie is not one McColley will soon forget.

“It’s a fan’s dream come true,” he said. “Short of working in the industry, how was I going to be featured in the credits of a movie about my childhood heroes?”

Notes from the Music Room



Turley Publications courtesy photo

A picture of the Agawam High School Color Guard appeared on the Agawam Lions Club Memorial Calendar in 1955. From left, Fay Parker, Gay Reynolds, Agnes Mitchell, Rose Marie Daigneault, Barbara Marsian, Mona Moretti, Jane Andrews, Nancy Candido, Audrey LaCourse, Brenda Kerber and Judy Warren.

By Darcy Davis

In writing about the Agawam High School Color Guard, it seems appropriate to report on how it all started. In coming from Bennington, where a Color Guard had been developed, it seemed to be a good idea to try to get something started here in Agawam.

The first think I did on my first day was to put a notice on the morning bulletin stating, “Mr. Davis would like to have some girls to carry the flags for the marching band. No experience is needed. See him after school.”

Eleven girls appeared on the scene. “We didn’t make cheerleaders and we would be happy to carry the flags for the band,” they said.

That was the start of it all. They put together some homemade outfits. Flags and wooden rifles were purchased. Someone took their picture and it was put on the cover of the town calendar for that year. It became glamorous to be in the Color Guard. Girls would ask themselves, “I don’t know if I would rather be in Color Guard or a cheerleader.”

At one point some years later, the group would total 60 people. Each year tryouts were held to appoint 20 new sophomore girls and at one time, 70 girls tried out for those positions.

I know things are different now. We didn’t have eight sport teams for girls and cheerleader groups getting started in the fifth grade, but for many years, the group was a most impressive part of the marching unit.



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Public Safety

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 326 calls from May 1 to May 7. The department made 13 arrests. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Tuesday, May 1

Guilia L. Mitchell, 32, of 698 Mill St., Agawam, was arrested on a charge of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Wednesday, May 2

Renard Fredrick Mond, 42, of 40 Montrose St., Springfield, was arrested on a charge of operating a motor vehicle with license suspended (subsequent offense).

A 16-year-old juvenile was arrested on an arrest warrant.

A 12-year-old juvenile was arrested on an arrest warrant.

Keith Hill, 52, of 1 Old Hartford Ave., East Granby, was arrested on three default warrants for failure to appear.

Thursday, May 3

A 16-year-old juvenile was arrested on an arrest warrant.

Christopher Vella, 20, of 175 Meadowbrook Road, Agawam, was arrested on charges of person under 21 possession of liquor; town ordinance violation – 94C 1 ounce or less of Class D; and possession of

Class A drug.

Tesfaye Z. Bihonegne, 19, of 617 River Road, Agawam, was arrested on a charge of person under 21 possession of liquor.

Saturday, May 5

Fiore T. Liquori, 52, of 18 James St., Agawam, was arrested on an arrest warrant and charges of possession to distribute Class B drug (two counts); possession of ammunition without firearms identification card; possession to distribute Class E drug (two counts); possession of Class A drug; and possession of Class E drug.

Sunday, May 6

Michael Francis Szady Jr., 36, of 138 Harvey St., Springfield, was arrested on charges of possession to distribute Class B drug (subsequent offense); possession of Class B drug; and operating a motor vehicle with license suspended.

Michael J. Cook Jr., 28, of 274 Cooper St., Agawam, was arrested on charges of domestic assault and battery and intent to commit misdemeanor (breaking and entering in daytime).

Denise J. Sekula, 23, of 2 Beekman Drive, Agawam, was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct.

Luke Cabana, 18, of 1143 North Westfield St., Agawam, was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct.

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 76 EMS calls for the week of May 1 to May 7.

On May 2 at 4:12 p.m., the department responded to Debra Lane for smoke detector activation, no fire – unintentional.

On May 2 at 4:28 p.m., the department was dispatched to Suffield Street and cancelled en route.

On May 2 at 7:15 p.m., the department responded to Shoemaker Lane for no incident found on arrival at dispatch address.

On May 3 at 7:28 a.m., the department responded to Grassmere Pond for extrication/rescue.

On May 4 at 10:06 a.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for public service assistance.

On May 5 at 4:53 p.m., the department responded to Cardinal Drive for a good intent call.

On May 6 at 3:49 a.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for carbon monoxide detector activation due to mal-

function.

On May 6 at 4:10 a.m., the department responded to the North End Bridge for swift water rescue.

On May 6 at 10:48 a.m., the department responded to Main Street for a lockout.

On May 6 at 6:06 p.m., the department responded to Denise Lane for alarm system sounding, no fire – unintentional.

On May 6 at 10:15 p.m., the department responded to Forest Road for a building fire.

On May 7 at 8:01 a.m., the department responded to Meadowbrook Manor for unintentional transmission of alarm.

On May 7 at 11:57 a.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for a good intent call.

On May 7 at 2:56 p.m., the department responded to Burlington Drive for carbon monoxide detector activation due to malfunction.

On May 7 at 5:26 p.m., the department responded to North Westfield Street for a motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

SPARKING AN INTEREST IN FIRE SAFETY



Turley Publications photo by Connie J. Casagrande

Ji-Sun Kim, 13, (left) and Madalyn Izoita, 14 – pictured here with Agawam Fire Department mascot Blaze, owned by firefighter/paramedic Pam Murphy, were the second- and first-place winners, respectively, in the Arson Watch Reward Program Fire Safety Poster Contest.

AGAWAM — Two Agawam Junior High School students have been recognized with awards in the Arson Watch Reward Program’s 30th annual county and statewide Fire Safety Poster Contest for students in grades 6-8 across the

Commonwealth.

Ji-Sun Kim, 13, took second place with her poster, which won her \$100, while Madalyn Izoita, 14, won first place for \$200.

‘Guns For Hoses’ fundraiser to benefit fallen firefighters

Guns for Hoses will holds its third annual fundraising event Sunday, May 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Xtreme Paintball, 369 Main St., Agawam. The event raises funds for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Mike Rocke, a former fire chief, is the organizer of this event. “This is just one of the many ways we can help support the families of our firefighters who have given their lives serving us,” said Rocke.

“This is a wonderful way for people to have a great time and raise money for our fallen firefighters. The last two years have been successful and we are anticipating over 100 people this year. Firefighters, as well as people of all occupations, have come together in the past to honor these heroes.”

There will also be a raffle with thousands of dollars of prizes available. For more information about the National Fallen Firefighter

Foundation (NFFF), visit Firehero.org.

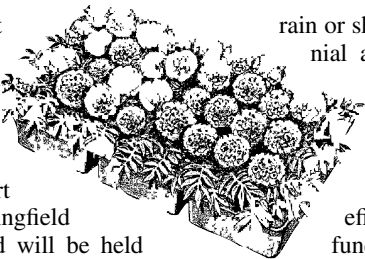
Contributions may also be made by sending a check to “Guns for Hoses” and mail it to Mike Rocke, c/o Xtreme Paintball, 369 Main St, Agawam, MA 01001.

Cat food drive scheduled

Agawam Friends of Homeless Cats will hold a dry cat food drive at Pet Supplies Plus, 175 Memorial Ave., West Springfield on Saturday, May 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bags of dry cat food are needed. Tickets will also be available for the May 12 Coffee House for Cool Cats.

Garden club to host plant sale

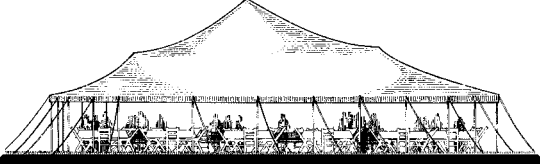
The annual plant sale of the Agawam Garden Club will be held Saturday, May 12 from 9 a.m. to noon in the parking lot of Sacred Heart Church, 1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills and will be held



rain or shine. Hundreds of perennial and some annual plants will be available, with prices from \$2 to \$4, depending on the size and rarity. Proceeds will benefit the club’s scholarship fund.

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Cancer 'Relay' set for May 19

RELAY FOR LIFE, from page 1

“We love team fundraisers – they’re a great way to get into the community and create a buzz about the Relay,” said Helen van Riel, the ACS staff member in charge of organizing the event.

She’s been working with two Agawam residents who serve as the Relay’s co-chairs. Janine Iacolo is community co-chair and Heather Gonyeau, an AHS senior, is student co-chair.

Racing toward raising \$30,000

For the past three months they have organized teams and kept them moving forward to help the Relay meet its first-year goal of raising \$30,000. As of May 8, the Relay is more than halfway to its goal with teams raising nearly \$17,000.

Participants form teams for the Relay, then seek donations, rather than pledges, from friends, family, and colleagues. Each team member has a minimum goal of \$100, plus a \$10 registration fee.

Van Riel added that most fundraising is done prior to the Relay. “This eliminates the hassle of collecting pledges after the event and encourages teams to have a fun and friendly competition while raising money for the Relay.”

However, van Riel said fundraising continues during and after the Relay.

“Many teams choose to do post-event fundraisers in the summer months, since our Relay website stays live until July,” she said.

Ever since the Feb. 16 kickoff, van Riel, Iacolo, and Gonyeau have met monthly with teams at the Agawam Senior Center to keep them motivated and informed. Participants also learn fundraising strategies.

“We encourage team participants to set goals – both for their team and for themselves. One of the reasons we meet is to discuss ideas so they can meet their goals,” said van Riel.

She said teams have been “thinking outside the box.” From holding dress down days at their workplaces to sponsoring spaghetti dinners to selling candy and bracelets – and even butterflies – several Relay participants have found some creative ways to fundraise in their fight against cancer.

Butterfly flights help fight disease

Sabrina Bolly is the captain of Team Monarch. Her team’s logo – a butterfly – is also the source of its main fundraiser. “We’ve been selling butterflies for \$5 each. So far, we’ve raised about \$300 by selling 60 butterflies. Our plan is to release 120 butterflies at a Relay ceremony,” she said.

The Agawam resident said one of the reasons she decided to form a team for her first Relay event was the location.

“It’s not as hard to get sponsors and teammates, or to fundraise, when the Relay is in your own town,” said Bolly. “The Relay is great way to help town residents get more involved in the event and come together for a good cause. One of the events we held was a spaghetti supper at M&M’s restaurant that raised \$224 in three hours.”

Cancer victims ‘inspire’ sisters

Joanne Lyne’s father died from cancer when she was young and a close family friend died recently from the disease. When Lyne learned that Agawam was hosting a Relay, she decided to form a team with her sister because “this event spoke to our hearts.”

Lyne and her sister are co-captains of “Team INSPIRE.”

“We chose this name because everyone has someone in their life who has inspired them with their courage and strength fighting this disease,” she said. She and her sister grew up in Agawam and now live in town with their families.

Lyne said that in addition to her sister, other family members – her husband, her three children, her brother, and her brother-in law – have joined her team. All plan to participate in the overnight Relay.

They will be joined by several of Lyne’s close friends and co-workers, including her inspiration: a woman named Corrina who is undergoing chemotherapy following a double mastectomy.

“Corrina will be completing chemo just before the walk. Her goal is to stay through the night and finish the walk,” said Lyne. She added that her team also has a cancer survivor, Gabriella St. Pierre, who was diagnosed with a rare cancer at age 11.

“Cancer affects everyone, including children, so it will be great for my kids to walk with Gabriella to support her recovery.”

Lyne said she has been reaching out to friends, family, and co-workers to help her team raise as much money as possible.

“We’ve raised more than \$5,000 so far. We’re going strong. Hopefully, we can reach \$6,000 – maybe even more.”

She said her children have been involved in the fundraising by selling “INSPIRE” bracelets at soccer games. “One of the things I love about the Relay is that it can involve the whole family. Cancer has touched so many lives, which is why I feel it’s important to teach our kids how to give back and support this Relay.”

Coming home to ‘Relay’

This is Katelyn Iacolo’s fifth Relay. While she has participated in several area Relays during the past 10 years, Iacolo hasn’t participated every year because of scheduling conflicts.

“But I’m definitely looking forward to this one,” she said.

Iacolo is co-captaining a team with her mother, Janine, who is the community co-chair. Called “Jan’s Jokers,” she said the team has 18 people, including family, friends, co-workers, and “whomever wishes to share the experience with us.”

The team recently hosted a car show at Kaptain Jimmy’s Restaurant & Distillery (see sidebar story) in Agawam and plans to hold a poker night at a local bar to raise money for the Relay. The team has raised about \$1,000.

Katelyn Iacolo said she has seen many Agawam residents at other Western Mass. Relays – and hopes to see many of them at Agawam’s Relay.

“Being able to host our own Relay is a big step for our town. I think it will be great to have Agawam residents there, but I’m also hoping there will be teams from surrounding towns as well.”

Fundraising favorites

Kathy Morace and her daughter Danyel Morace are co-captains of “Kathy’s Crusaders.” The team was named in honor of Morace’s courageous battle against breast cancer. She will kick off the Relay by carrying a banner and walking the inspirational “survivors lap” around the track.

Morace said she and Danyel were so inspired by the February Relay kickoff meeting that they immediately began fundraising.

“We knew everyone loves candy, so we decided that selling candy bars would be a great way to raise money,” she said.

Her daughter creates her own jewelry, so they incorporated the sale of custom bracelets into their fundraising efforts. “Every girl loves a beautiful bracelet, especially one with such meaning. We also have been selling purple awareness unisex bracelets,” said Kathy Morace.

Danyel Morace said the team has raised more than \$2,300 and is striving for even more. They raised \$760 at her employer, Mestek, Inc., in Westfield, by holding dress



Turley Publications photos by Mike Lydick

Joanne Lyne (far right), co-captain of “Team INSPIRE,” asks a question during a Relay For Life of Agawam meeting at the Agawam Senior Center. Team meetings have been run monthly by the Relay’s community co-chair, Janine Iacolo (far left), student co-chair Heather Gonyeau (not shown), and Helen van Riel (second from left), the American Cancer Society staff member in charge of the Relay.

down days during April.

Additionally, the team has been selling tickets for \$1, \$5, and \$10 to win prizes in a drawing at the Relay. Danyel Morace contacted a number of national companies via Facebook while her mother contacted a number of local businesses.

“So far, we’ve received \$225 in gift cards as well as a number of other donated items, including an acoustic guitar from Agawam Music and a Tiffany lamp from Memory Lane Lamps,” said Danyel Morace.

Ashlee Montessi, a member of “Kathy Crusaders,” obtained a purse from Sony Pictures that was used as a prop in the movie “Mardi Gras: Spring Break.”

She is excited about participating in the Relay in her hometown after participating in other area Relays while in high school and in college.

Montessi said the monthly team meetings have been very helpful and said van Riel, Iacolo, and Gonyeau have done an excellent job of informing, inspiring, and encouraging teams.

“They’ve made the meetings fun and have provided a ton of advice, suggestions, and information at the meetings. Between meetings, Helen, Janine, and Heather send us emails each week. They’ve also been great about making themselves available to answer any questions we’ve had about the Relay,” said Montessi.

Danyel Morace, who grew up in Agawam but now lives in Chicopee, said cancer doesn’t discriminate based on a geographic location.

“Cancer affects so many individuals and their families, regardless of where they live,” she said.

She said having the Relay in a small town like Agawam will help raise awareness about how the money from the event will fund cancer research as well as provide assistance for those diagnosed with cancer.

“Agawam is a great community and the Relay is a great community event. I’m grateful for all the support we’ve received during our fundraising.”

Food drive Saturday, May 12

PANTRY, from page 1

Reed said, citing the state of the economy as the biggest reason for the flux.

For the drive, the National Association of Letter Carriers is working in conjunction with the United States Postal Service to collect non-perishable food items to be distributed to local families in need.

Postal patrons are asked to leave food items by their mailboxes to be picked up by their letter carriers, said Reed.

He urged residents to look at the expiration dates on the food they are planning to donate to ensure that food items are not outdated.

“We’ve had stuff that expired in the 1980s [that was donated to us],” Reed said. Any food that is collected that is past expiration will be thrown out.

“We need good, shelf-stable stuff,” he said.

The food ministry – which is a member of the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts – works to honor the people who seek its assistance, said Reed.

“Some people are in this position not by the choices they’ve made,” he said, adding, “It’s hard for some people to come and ask for help.”

Therefore, Reed wants to make sure that the people who are served by Best

Life Food Ministry receive only the best items.

“We feel people are worth more than outdated food,” he said.

Items needed include non-perishable foods such as canned goods, pasta, cereal, rice, etc. Also needed are spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, and jelly.

The NALC food drive takes place annually on the second Saturday in May. Letter carriers in over 10,000 cities and towns across the country – including right here in Agawam and Feeding Hills – have collected donations along their postal routes since the program’s inception in 1991. Last year, 70.2 million pounds of food was collected nationwide.

Normally, in the first few weeks following the drive, Best Life Food Ministry would offer the collected items to Agawam residents only, but this year, Reed said the food will be used to stock its shelves so that anyone in need of assistance – from Agawam or not – will be able to receive it during normal hours of operation.

Best Life Food Ministry serves roughly 250 families each month. It is open Monday and Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. For more information on how to obtain assistance from Better Life Food Ministry, call Jamie Lilly or Reed at 789-2930.

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Businesses rev up support for Agawam ‘Relay’

By Mike Lydick
Turley Publications Correspondent

One of Agawam’s newest eateries played host to some old classics to help raise money for one of the town’s newest charitable events.

More than 30 classic cars from the 1920s to the 1970s cruised into the parking lot at Kaptain Jimmy’s Restaurant & Distillery on Suffield Street on April 28. It was one of several fundraising events held around town to raise money for the first overnight Relay For Life of Agawam sponsored by the American Cancer Society (ACS).

The Relay will be held at the Agawam High School track and sports field starting Saturday, May 19, at 5 p.m. and ending Sunday, May 20, at 8 a.m.

Car show entrants paid a registration fee of \$10 to show their vehicle and the restaurant ran a \$5 “burger special” during the 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday event.

In addition, Kaptain Jimmy’s donated beverages that were sold at the event, provided a \$50 gift card at a discounted price for show organizers to use as a prize for the car voted the “crowd favorite,” and will donate food for the Relay’s survivor reception.

The car show was organized by “Jan’s Jokers” team participants Mario and Steve Iacolo. They are the husband and son of Janine Iacolo, the team’s co-captain and the Relay’s community co-chair.

Janine Iacolo said the event raised between \$300 and \$500.

“The turnout was unbelievable – it went beyond exceeding my expectations.”

Car enthusiasts eat and look

She said a couple of days before the show, only a few cars had registered. “We weren’t sure if anyone was going to show up, but the weather turned out to be just great for a car show. Once we opened, the cars rolled in and car enthusiasts flocked to see them.”

Among those who showed up to check out the pristine classic cars and customized hot rods was Agawam Mayor Richard A. Cohen.

“Agawam orange,” he exclaimed when he saw an orange and white ’57 Corvette convertible as he took a quick tour with Janine Iacolo after enjoying lunch at the restaurant.

Tim Harrington, Kaptain Jimmy’s general manager, said he was thrilled with the business the car show brought to the restaurant.

“The kitchen was surprisingly busy – it was a pleasant surprise to have so many people here,” he said.

Harrington, whose mother is a cancer survivor, said he had wanted to host a car show since the restaurant opened. He said it was so successful that he wants to do it again.

A black, customized ’55 Chevy Bel Air sedan, owned by Westfield resident Dick Scorzafava and his son Tony, was voted the “crowd favorite.” Scorzafava said he enjoyed displaying his car for “great cause,” adding his sister is a cancer survivor and his mother in-law died of cancer.

‘Outstanding’ community response

The car show is just one of many events happening in Agawam to help teams and the ACS meet or exceed its goal of raising \$30,000 for the Relay.

“The response from the community has been outstanding,” said Iacolo.

She said local businesses have donated gift cards/certificates or offered in-kind donations for the Relay.

“To help keep us fortified during the overnight hours, Coffee Pause will donate coffee as well as paper cups and stirrers, Hood will contribute 1,700 bottles of water, and Crystal Ice will provide a 300-pound block of ice,” Iacolo added.

Other Agawam businesses – including E.B’s and M&M restaurants – have shown their support for the Relay by holding “dining for a cause” events. E.B’s donated 10 percent of its sales for one day and M&M’s sponsored a spaghetti dinner as a team fundraiser.

Businesses paint the town purple

Another local establishment – Allied Flooring & Paint – made a splash by painting the outside of its Main Street building purple in honor of a “Paint the Town Purple” event for the Relay.

During the last week of April, large purple ribbons began appearing on Main Street businesses. They were encouraged to hang the ribbons – provided by the Agawam Flower Shop –and /or decorate their storefronts in purple – the official color of the Relay.

“We’re very pleased with the turnout and hope next year to possibly expand it to include Springfield Street,” said Iacolo.

Helen van Riel, the ACS staff member in charge of the Relay, said purple bows signify support and raise awareness for the Relay.



Turley Publications photos by Mike Lydick

Janine Iacolo, community co-chair for the Relay for Life of Agawam presents a \$50 gift certificate from Kaptain Jimmy’s Restaurant & Distillery to Dick Scorzafava and his son, Tony. Their black, customized ’55 Chevy Bel Air sedan was voted the “crowd favorite” at a car show held in the restaurant’s parking lot to benefit the Relay.

She said communities throughout the country promote their Relays with various “Paint the Town Purple” events.

“This activity is another opportunity to help spread the word about the Relay and its important goal of fighting the battle against cancer,” said van Riel.

Iacolo and a committee of Relay volunteers held the judging on Saturday, May 5. Allied Flooring & Paint’s colorful and eye-catching purple received the most votes. They received a gift basket and are featured

with a photo on the Relay’s Facebook page.

“Allied went beyond what was expected and created a display that showed amazing support,” said Iacolo. “It truly was awe inspiring and very appreciated.”

She added that Allied also started a Facebook campaign to show their support for the Relay and to ask for Relay donations. “I hope it becomes contagious. This kind of support makes me extremely proud to live in Agawam.”



Allied Flooring & Paint made a big splash by painting the front of its Main Street building purple to win the “Paint the Town Purple” contest for the Relay For Life of Agawam.

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Cop accidentally shots woman

COP, from page 1

from inside the building.

As officers were entering the apartment, the weapon of one of the responding officers was discharged. A woman – who was not identified at presstime – was struck by the bullet and suffered what police described as “a non-fatal injury.” She was transported to Baystate Medical Center in Springfield “for necessary treatment,” Light said.

The name of the officer who shot the woman has not been released.

“It’s still under very active investigation,” said Agawam Police Chief Robert Campbell. “We’re still interviewing people... to start releasing information to the press would hinder the investigation at this time.”

Campbell would not comment on how long the officer has been with the department.

He did confirm that the officer involved is on paid administrative leave.

“That’s pretty much standard procedure,” Campbell explained, adding that the officer, like the victim, “suffered a trauma” as a result of the incident.

Placing that officer on administrative leave gives them “a couple days to settle down,” he said.

Campbell said once the investigation is complete, the department will release the name of the officer involved.

The Massachusetts State Police unit assigned to the Office of District Attorney Mark G. Mastroianni responded to the scene along with the state police ballistic unit.

The incident is under investigation by Agawam Police Department, Massachusetts State Police, and the district attorney.

The suspect related to the original call had fled out of the back of the apartment and was located by police, Light said.

Additional information was not made available and Mastroianni did not return calls seeking comment at presstime.

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Families

‘Soldier On’ leader to speak at AJWC meeting

The May 15 meeting of the GFWC Agawam Junior Women’s Club will feature Jack Downing from “Soldier On.” As president and CEO of “Soldier On,” Downing has worked tirelessly to create a new national model for addressing American veteran homelessness. His vision and passion for serving veterans has sparked this organization to pioneer methods aimed not simply at providing a response to veteran homelessness, but a permanent solution to the problem.

Downing joined “Soldier On,” previously known as United Veterans of America, in 2001, and has expanded their partnership with the Department of Veteran’s Affairs, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Department of Labor, on behalf of homeless veterans. He has developed innovative programs in housing and clinical service including the Berkshire Veterans Residence which opened in the fall of 2004.

The \$12 million Gordon H. Mansfield Veterans Community project at the former Western Massachusetts Regional Police Academy on South Westfield Street in Feeding Hills is to turn it into 54 studio apartments with a dining facility and offices. This housing project for the homeless is expected to break ground this summer.

Downing has been a dedicated member of the community for over 35 years, and his experiences helping the addicted, mentally ill, incarcerated, and homeless individuals has been integral to the vision of “Soldier On.”

The meeting will start at 7 p.m. Any Agawam woman seeking to enhance her community is welcome to join the AJWC. The GFWC Agawam Junior Women’s Club is a member of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs, Junior Membership, of Massachusetts. Club meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at the Agawam Senior Center. To learn more about the AJWC, call Betsie at 789-7313.

Public invited to annual ‘Liederabend’

The Ladies’ Glee Club and the Men’s Singing Section of the Springfield Turnverein located at 176 Garden St., in Feeding Hills, will hold its the annual “Liederabend,” (An Evening Of Song), Saturday, May 19.

Dinner, which will be served from 6 to 7 p.m., will include rouladen (rolled beef), potato, red cabbage, dessert, and coffee or tea. Tickets are \$15. Reservations are required by May 16 and may be made by calling the club at 786-0924 after 4 p.m. or Wilma Gilan at 786-4671.

Following dinner, the singers will entertain under the direction of Martha Sienkiewicz. The Joe Campici Duo will play for your dancing and listening pleasure.

The public is invited for an evening to re-new acquaintances and make new ones.

Troop 77 to host car wash

Boy Scout Troop 77 will hold a car wash and hot dog sale Saturday, May 26 at Rocky’s Ace Hardware in Agawam from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Proceeds from this fundraiser will support summer activities for the troop. The public is invited to stop by and support the troop.

Health

Baystate to hold class for grandparents, parents-to-be

SPRINGFIELD – Baystate Medical Center is offering grandparents and expectant parents a free class, “Your ‘Baby’ is Having a Baby!” on Wednesday, May 16, at 6:30 p.m. at the Baystate Health Education Center on 361 Whitney Ave. in Holyoke.

As part of the class, grandparents will learn how to maximize their new role as a grandparent, and how to help support the expectant parents.

Suzanne Meserve, BSW, LCCE, parent education instructor at Baystate, will also describe the many new childbirth techniques available to new moms. Linda Cauley, RN, IBCLC, coordinator of Lactation Services at Baystate, will discuss the many benefits and options for breastfeeding mothers. Also, pediatrician Dr. John Kelley will discuss the changes in infant safety and parenting that have occurred over the last two decades.

A question and answer session will follow. Registration is required and seating is limited.

To register, call (800) 377-4325.

Survivors walk to kick-off Relay for Life of Agawam

Relay For Life of Agawam will step off with a special Survivors Lap, a moving experience honoring those who have defeated cancer, Saturday, May 19 and Sunday, May 20 starting at 5 p.m. Survivors and their caregivers will join together to take Relay’s opening lap, unified in victory and hope, while the rest of the event’s participants surround the track to cheer them on.

Relay For Life is a grassroots fundraising event in which individuals and teams of participants in more than 5,100 communities nationwide walk around a track overnight to celebrate the lives of those who have faced cancer, remember loved one lost, and commit to fight back against the disease. The money raised through Relay For Life supports the American Cancer Society’s efforts to create a world with less cancer and more birthdays.

Relay For Life events are held at an athletic track, park or other gathering area, with the goal of keeping at least one team member on the track or pathway at all times throughout the evening. Teams do most of their fundraising prior to the event, but some teams also hold creative fundraisers at their campsites during Relay. Relay brings together friends, families, businesses, hospitals, schools, civic and faith-based groups, people from all walks of life, all aimed at furthering the American Cancer Society’s efforts to save lives by helping people stay well, by helping them get well, by finding cures and by fighting back.

If you are a cancer survivor or caregiver and would like to take part in the Relay For Life of Agawam, call the American Cancer Society at (800) 227-2345 or visit www.RelayForLife.org.

ON THE SHELF AT AGAWAM PUBLIC LIBRARY

Student art display

Artwork done by students of the Thousand Cranes Studio, located at 505 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, will be on display for the month of May at the Agawam Public Library.

The exhibit will include the works of students ages 5 to 18 in a variety of art programs created over the past school year.

Ghostology 201: The Darker Side Revealed

The Agawam Public Library will host “Ghostology 201,” a follow-up to Ghostology 101, Thursday, May 31 at 6:30 p.m. It will begin with a review, continuing with an introduction into the darker aspects of the paranormal.

A hands-on component will include an EMF detector, temperature variance station and photographs taken from previous investigations. A group electronic voice phenomenon (EVP) will be taken and will include evidence review. Team members will be available for question and answer time at the end of the program.

Agawam Paranormal is a family/friends based team that approaches paranormal claims with both a scientific and psychic format. The focus is to provide a free service to help all those in distress.

For more information, visit www.agawamparanormal.com, or search their Facebook page.

Seating is limited for this event. To register, call 789-1550 ext. 4, or sign up online at www.agawamlibrary.org. Due to the subject matter, this event is for adult audiences only.

News and upcoming events from the ICC

SPRINGFIELD - The Italian Cultural of Western Mass, Inc. (ICC), 56 Margaret St., Springfield, will host a golf tournament on Saturday, July 14 at St. Anne Country Club, 781 Shoemaker Lane, Feeding Hills. Shotgun start is at 1 p.m., scramble format. Fee is \$100 per player and includes play, cart, lunch and dinner, contests and prizes. Early registration is encouraged. For more information and to register, call Dianna Calvane at (413) 592-2933.

The ICC will sponsor a trip to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island Saturday, June 9. The cost is \$65 per person; \$60 for children under 12. To reserve a seat, call Joann Nichting at (413) 783-1344. Leave your name and phone number, you will receive a confirmation call. All reservations must be made and

paid for by May 14. Book early as space is limited. The bus will depart from the ICC at 7:30 a.m. and return around 11 p.m. Tickets are on sale now.

A Limoncello-making class will be held Saturday, June 2 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the ICC. The public is invited to join in and learn how to make this Italian lemon liqueur. An instructor will guide a hands-on demonstration. The recipe and supplies will be provided. A sample of Limoncello will even be provided to take home. Space is limited and will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Adults only for this class. Tickets are \$25 for both ICC members and non-members and are available by calling Rose Costa at (413) 786-3205. Registration and pre-payment are due by May 25.

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Heart, Stroke Assoc. calendar of events

The American Stroke Associates will hold a Power to End Stroke Gospel Brunch Saturday, May 12 from 9 a.m. to noon at St. Anthony’s Maronite Church in Springfield. The free educational event will harness the energy, passion and creativity of gospel music to educate people on how to prevent and overcome stroke. Stroke survivors, caregivers and anyone interested in learning how to help educate their congregation and community on heart disease and stroke are encouraged to attend. Pre-registration is required.

The American Heart Association will hold its annual walk to fight cardiovascular disease and stroke at Forest Park in Springfield. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the walk kicks off at 10 a.m. with a one-, two- and five-mile course, a kids zone, entertainment and heart healthy information. Prize incentives available for fundraising. To register or for more information, call (413) 827-0400 or visit pioneervalleyheart-walk.org.

Registration open for Perry Lane Summer Camp

Registration is now open for Perry Lane Summer Camp in Agawam, which provides the opportunity to grow, learn, and have a great summer camp experience. The facility includes an in-ground pool, a large pavilion, a ropes /challenge course, a basketball net, two age appropriate playgrounds, sand volleyball court, and three tennis courts.

While at camp, children enjoy a variety of activities, including swimming, arts and crafts, sports and games, challenge activities, special days and events all focusing on fun and safety. Songs, skits, chants, and general silliness are part of the daily activities. Day Camp and Teen Camp will also enjoy pizza on the last day of camp. The schedule is as follows:

Perry Lane Summer Camp: Session I: June 25 – July 6 (no camp July 4); Session II: July 9 – July 20; Session III: July 23 – Aug. 3; Session IV: Aug. 6 – Aug. 17.

Pre-School Camp: 9 a.m. – noon, Monday through Friday, for children ages 4 (by July 1) and 5 years old who have not completed kindergarten. Limit: 20 campers per session; Cost: \$120 per session.

Perry Lane Day Camp: 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, for children who have completed kindergarten through children who are currently in grade 5 (2011-2012 school year). Campers will be divided into groups based on this year’s current school grade. Limit: 125 campers per session; Cost: \$175 per session.

Teen Camp: 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, for children currently enrolled in grade 6 (2011-2012 school year), through age 15. Limit: 40 campers per session; Cost: \$175 per session.

The Perry Lane Camp Extended Day allows working parents the opportunity to drop off children early or stay a little longer. Children must be enrolled in either Perry Lane Day Camp or Teen Camp to be eligible for the extended day program.

AM Extended Day: 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m., \$ 40 per session.

PM Extended Day: 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., \$50 per session

Registration must be done in person at the Parks & Recreation Department, 1000 Suffield St., Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

‘Dan and Kim’ to host Press Club Roast

SPRINGFIELD – The Valley Press Club has scheduled its annual roast on Friday, May 18, at 5:30 p.m., at Smith’s Billiards above Theodore’s at 207 Worthington St., Springfield. The emcees for the Roast are Dan Williams and Kim Zachary of the new “Dan and Kim Morning Show” on abc40/Fox 6 television.

The roast satirizes the news and the newsmakers. Local and state politicians are expected to attend, and the event is open to the public. A raffle will be held.

The event includes hors d’oeuvres, a raffle and a cash bar. The proceeds benefit the club’s scholarship fund for journalism students.

Members of the area media and Springfield City Hall staff are among the participants in the roast. Some of the guest participants planning to participate include Springfield Mayor Domenic J. Sarno and

Hampden County Sheriff Michael Ashe. Topics of the skits include the Massachusetts Senate race, the downtown Entertainment District and Holyoke City Hall.

Tickets are now on sale for \$20. The price includes food and use of the pool tables. Advance tickets are available by sending a check made out to “Valley Press Club,” mailed to the ROAST, Valley Press Club, P.O. Box 5475, Springfield, MA 01102. Tickets will also be available at the door.

The Valley Press Club consists of active and retired journalists from all media, and public relations professionals from corporate and nonprofit organizations.

The club hosts meetings with newsmakers, is helping to organize a debate with Senatorial candidates Scott Brown and Elizabeth Warren in the fall and presents its annual scholarships to high school seniors pursuing a career in journalism in June.



Turley Publications photo submitted

Dan Williams and Kim Zachary will host the Valley Press Club Roast at Smith’s Billiards on Friday, May 18 at 5:30 p.m. For tickets call 413-575-4954.

Walking tour to visit tornado-ravaged MacDuffie School campus

SPRINGFIELD – Historian Bill Hosley, a preservationist and former curator at the Wadsworth Atheneum, will lead a walking tour up Maple Street to the Ames Hill campus of the former MacDuffie School on Saturday, May 12, from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

The campus is one of Springfield’s most historic and architecturally significant areas. It was cobbled together from a cluster of remarkable Victorian and early-20th-century mansions which were used as MacDuffie School facilities for more than half a century. Young House and the Wallace family mansion are extraordinary examples of Greek Revival and Spanish Colonial design.

John Foley, the founder of Commonwealth Academy, a new urban-based private school, was closing on the purchase of the campus when the disaster struck. He will host the first public tour and access of the campus since the tornado. The group will get a look at the restoration in progress and hear about the plans for Commonwealth Academy in a never-before-offered tour of a fascinating chapter in Springfield’s educational and architectural history.

Hosley has lectured at the Springfield Museums, given tours of Springfield Cemetery, and originated the Historic Springfield Facebook community - a public forum for issues, ideas, events and information about the qualities that make

Springfield special.

The tour is part of the Second Saturday Walking Tour series, co-sponsored by the Armoury-Quadrangle Civic Association and the Springfield Museums. Walking tour tickets may be purchased in the museum Welcome Center at 21 Edwards St. on the day of the event. Tickets are free for members of the civic association or of the museums. Tickets for non-members are \$5 per person. All proceeds will go toward improvements to the neighborhood.

For more information, call the Armoury-Quadrangle Civic Association at (413) 747-1830 or email aqca@kimballtowers.com.



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Improvement League offering scholarships

The Hampden County Improvement League is awarding scholarships in the amount of up to \$1,000 to high school seniors who meet certain criteria. The applications are available at area high schools and are due by June 1.

Recipients must be a resident of Hampden County for at least two years, be a good student and must show current or previous involvement in 4-H, an agricultural endeavor or be a member of a farm family.

The Hampden County Improvement League was established Jan. 25, 1913 to promote agriculture and farm family life in Hampden County HCIL is committed to encouraging youth to challenge themselves and work towards their potential by furthering their education after high school. To help meet this financial commitment the League established a scholarship fund in 1993. Scholarships are awarded annually in the amount of up to \$1,000 each. The recipient will continue to receive the award throughout his/her post secondary education.

For more information, call Sue at 786-1432, Maryellen at 786-9995 or see your school guidance counselor.

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In the Classroom

Agawam's family of FIRSTs

By Mike Lydick
Turley Publications Correspondent

Most Monday and Wednesday evenings until the end of December, Patty Burns can be found with a group of students at Agawam's Junior High School, brainstorming about what kind of robot to build or what research project to complete.

Burns, a junior high school counselor, also coaches a robotics team – Robo Warriors – at the school. Her father, John Burns, introduced robotics to Agawam schools. She said his passion for the program inspired her to become a robotics coach.

Her team is in the FIRST LEGO League division, which is for students in grades 4 to 6. It is one of four divisions of FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) affiliated teams in Agawam schools. FIRST was founded in 1989 by renowned inventor Dean Kamen.

FIRST programs begin in first grade with the Junior LEGO League (Jr.FLL). Students can then move up to the FIRST LEGO League (FLL). In junior high school, students can join the FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC). They can continue on in high school with Rosie in the FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) division.

Junior FIRST LEGO League

Jr.FLL features a real-world scientific concept explored through research, teamwork, construction, and imagination. Guided by adult coaches, teams use LEGO bricks to build a moving model.

Offered at all four elementary schools, Jr. FLL focuses on building an interest in science and engineering in children. "They don't compete, but instead participate in a science fair-like event," said Win Chancy, an Agawam parent who oversees the Jr.FLL and FLL programs.

FIRST LEGO League

FLL – offered at the Roberta G. Doering Middle School and the junior high school – is the next FIRST level.

"It introduces students to real-world engineering and technology challenges by building LEGO-based robots to complete tasks on a thematic playing surface," said Chancy.

The challenge this school year for the FFL team of seven boys that Burns coached was to build an autonomous robot to solve a set of food safety "missions."

Her students competed in matches with other FLL teams to complete some of the missions of the challenge. Each robot had 2 1/2 minutes to complete as many missions as possible and each mission is given a points value. The team with the most points wins the match.

Burns said the robotics program gives students an excellent sense of pride and increases their confidence.

"In the process, they also learn more about engineering, science, and technology," she said.

FIRST Tech Challenge

FTC – designed for students ages 14 to 18 – is comprised of teams with up to 10 students. Grouped into alliances of two teams each (red and blue alliances), they compete on a 12-foot x 12-foot field.

Agawam's FTC team – the Mighty Mechanics Team 839 – was formed by David Blain and Win Chan when students they had coached in the FLL division wanted to move up to a bigger challenge.

Blain said since there's no faculty advisor for the team, meetings are held at his home. Because of the limited space, the team has just six members.

Students built prototypes to test different ideas to solve the various problems presented. They learned how to use PTC's CAD (Computer Aided Design) software to design a custom base for the robot, how to use various power tools, and even how to bend Lexan.

"Our mentoring approach was to show kids how to use a tool, then help them, then watch them," said Blain. "By the end of build season, they were all making the needed parts. The mentors just watched to make sure they stayed safe."

He added that Rosie team member Katie McDonald was "invaluable" in teaching CAD software and stayed on as a mentor to help manufacture and assemble the robot.

Blain, who this year became a mentor with Rosie, said while there are similarities between the FTC and FCR divisions, there are some differences:

- FRC robots are heavier, play on a larger field, and can be manufactured from almost any material. FTC teams use robots made from aluminum parts
- FTC has three to four months to design, build, and test the robot, versus exactly six weeks for FRC.
- FTC teams can continue to work on the robot between competitions, FRC can't.
- FTC is less expensive, but is harder for large teams to stay engaged because they work on a smaller robot.

"All FIRST programs provide students with useful skills," said Blain. "They are exposed to team building, project/time management, and technical skills at a much younger age than most other youngsters. These skills not only go on to help them excel in school, but also makes them better members of the community by teaching them core values."



Turley Publications photo courtesy of Patty Burns

Agawam Junior High School Robo Warriors coach Patty Burns (bottom row, right) poses with her team of students. Shown: (top row, l. to r.): Alex Peterson, Marino Lazio, Jake Hodge; (middle row, l. to r.) Alan Herlihy, Quincy Butler; (bottom row, l. to r.) Troy Benoit, Sam Wood, and Burns. (Photo courtesy of Patty Burns)

Tournament of Rosie set for June 16

The 11th Annual Tournament of Rosie will be held Saturday, June 16 at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course in Feeding Hills.

Rosie Robotics is a part of the F.I.R.S.T. (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition program. This is an international program to teach and promote learning in the fields of engineering, manufacturing, marketing, information technology and business management.

Students are given the task of building and developing a robot that is required to perform a certain task and this task changes from year to year. Through hands-on experience, these students must fully fund, develop, manufacture and implement their ideas using kit materials and they must accomplish this goal in a

six-week period.

The proceeds from this tournament will allow the students to participate in local and regional robotics competitions. The public's support enables students to continue to gain knowledge and experience by their participation in this program.

A donation of \$85 per player includes a round of golf with a cart, a sponsor book, lunch, dinner and prizes. The registration deadline is June 1 and entry is based on first paid teams. All checks should be made payable to Agawam Robotics Education Association, Inc. and sent to 152 Franklin St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

For more information, contact Dana Henry at 789-0684, Charlene Cameron at 786-8302 or email rosiegolf@comcast.net.

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Agawam Schools' weekly lunch menu

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, May 14: Baked popcorn chicken bites with dipping sauce, steamed white rice, carrot coins, fresh and chilled fruit, pudding with topping.

Tuesday, May 15: Cheeseburger on a roll, condiments and pickle spear, baked French fries, carrot coins, fresh and chilled fruit, Jell-O with topping.

Wednesday, May 16: Buttered noodles with meat sauce on the side, buttered breadstick, California mix vegetables, fresh and chilled fruit, cake.

Thursday, May 17: Cheese pizza round, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

Friday, May 18: Spicy chicken patty on a whole-wheat roll, baked potato wedges, vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit, dessert.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, May 14: Baked popcorn chicken bites with dipping sauce, steamed white rice, carrot coins, fresh and chilled fruit, pudding with topping.

Tuesday, May 15: Baked buffalo cheese

wedges with ranch dressing, mashed potatoes, seasoned corn, fresh and chilled fruit, Jell-O with topping.

Wednesday, May 16: Buttered noodles with meat sauce on the side, buttered breadstick, California mix vegetables, fresh and chilled fruit, cake.

Thursday, May 17: Cheese pizza round, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

Friday, May 18: BBQ beef rib on a roll, side of mac and cheese, seasoned corn, fresh and chilled fruit, dessert.

ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL

Monday, May 14: Baked popcorn chicken bites with dipping sauce, steamed white rice, carrot coins, fresh and chilled fruit, dessert.

Tuesday, May 15: Baked buffalo cheese wedges with ranch dressing, mashed potatoes, seasoned corn, fresh and chilled fruit, pudding with topping.

Wednesday, May 16: Buttered noodles with meat sauce on the side, buttered breadstick, California mix vegetables, fresh and chilled fruit, cake.

Thursday, May 17: Cheese pizza round, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

Friday, May 18: Grilled chicken filet on water roll with condiments, chips, vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit, dessert.

AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, May 14: Baked popcorn chicken bites with dipping sauce, steamed white rice, carrot coins, fresh and chilled fruit, dessert.

Tuesday, May 15: Mini chicken corn dogs with ketchup for dipping, mashed potatoes, seasoned corn, fresh and chilled fruit, pudding with topping.

Wednesday, May 16: Buttered noodles with meat sauce on the side, buttered breadstick, vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit, cake.

Thursday, May 17: Cheese pizza round, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

Friday, May 18: Assorted shaved deli meats on hard roll, Cape Cod chips, fresh sliced cucumbers, juice box, cookies.

Nominations sought for PTO officers

The Agawam Junior High School PTO will hold elections for new officers for the upcoming school year at the next PTO meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 23 at 6 p.m. in the school's cafeteria. Anyone interested in being nominated must be present at the meeting unless they have already accepted nomination at a previous meeting.

CAPTURE the Moment

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AA

Campus notes...

Bryan College - Carlin Nasiatka, of Feeding Hills, was one of 73 students recognized during Bryan College's 52nd annual Honors Day last month. The Honors Day program rewards students for their academic achievement or contribution to the Bryan community. Nasiatka received the Stephen P. Bradshaw Award, presented for excellence in the integration of Christianity and psychology.

Bryant University - Katherine Corliss, of

Agawam, a senior in actuarial mathematics, was awarded the Certificate in Data Mining from Bryant and SAS jointly. Bryant is only one of 18 universities worldwide to offer this approved certification program. SAS Institute Inc., headquartered in Cary, N.C., is one of the largest privately-held corporations in North Carolina and in the software business.

Loomis Chaffee - Abigail Adams, a se-

nior from Feeding Hills, was inducted into the Cum Laude Society, which recognizes students for their academic achievements during their junior and senior years.

Northeastern University - The following residents have been named to the fall dean's list at Northeastern University - Nicole Beaudry and Joseph Laviano, of Agawam, and Nicholas Giusto, of Feeding Hills.

Simmons College - Tam Luong, of Agawam, was named to the 2011 fall semester dean's list. Luong's major is biology.

Stonehill College - Michelle Curtis, of Feeding Hills, was recently inducted into Stonehill College's Honor Society, Lambda Epsilon Sigma. Curtis is a member of the Class of 2013. Juniors and seniors who have attained a 3.5 cumulative grade point average are invited to apply for consideration. In

order to be inducted into the society, the student must be recommended by faculty both from the student's major and from outside of the student's major.

Villanova University - Alexander Cassell, of Feeding Hills, was named to the dean's list at Villanova University for the fall 2011 semester. Cassell is enrolled in the Villanova School of Business.

Western New England University: Emma Thomson, of Agawam, has been inducted into the Alpha Phi Sigma honor society at Western New England University. Thomson is a senior majoring in Criminal Justice at the University. Alpha Phi Sigma recognizes academic excellence of undergraduate and graduate students of Criminal Justice, as well as Juris Doctorate students.

YOUR WORD IS...



Turley Publications photo courtesy of Michael Morrison

Agawam Town Spelling Bee first- and second-place winners (from left), Adam Dabkowski of Benjamin J. Phelps Elementary School; Brody Robbins, of James Clark Elementary School; and Amy Crawford, Evelyn Morrison, Jenna Gouvin, and Cassandra Jones of Roberta G. Doering School.

The 20th annual Agawam Town Spelling Bee, sponsored by the GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club was held Friday, May 4 at Roberta G. Doering School.

The event featured women's club member Donna Shibley as moderator, *Agawam Advertiser News* Editor Jennifer Wroblewski as pronouncer, and retired teachers Kathy Mounemneh, Theresa Ciarmatori and Donna Watson as judges.

Winners of the event include Adam Dabkowski of Benjamin J. Phelps Elementary School; Brody Robbins, of James Clark Elementary School; and Amy Crawford, Evelyn Mor-

ison, Jenna Gouvin, and Cassandra Jones of Roberta G. Doering School. Cash awards were donated by Westfield Bank.

The spelling bee will be broadcast on Cable Access Channel 15 on Wednesday, May 16 at 7 p.m.

The GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Its object is to enrich the quality of life in the community through a variety of educational, social and cultural projects and programs. For more information, visit www.agawamgfwc.com.

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7 a.m. to 9 a.m.



Little League Opening Day



Turley Publications photos by
Connie J. Casagrande



Agawam Advertiser News





SPORTS

Brownies chop down Orioles

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam boys volleyball team cruised to an easy 3-0 victory over Belchertown on Monday afternoon at home. The Brownies won their fourth straight

volleyball match by winning three straight games and completely dominated the visiting Orioles to improve to 13-0 for the regular season. The Brownies are undefeated in their last 35 games against Western Mass opponents. They have won 31 straight regular season games dating back to last season’s perfect 18-0 regular season.

Agawam started out with a dominant win in the first set in game one 25-8.

In game two, the Orioles mounted a bit of a challenge during the middle of the match. Belchertown put together a short run and trailed just 16-10. But the Brownies toughed up to win nine of the next 10 points in the match.

Brandon D’Amours, Colin Ritter and Jonathan Reidy all did an excellent job shutting the door in the second set and the Brownies would win 25-11.

Agawam would then cruise to a 25-13 win in the third set to take the match home in a short affair that took just over an hour to play.

In the game, the Brownies were able to play all 13 varsity players on the roster, allowing them to get players some action as the team heads for the tournament at the end of the month.

Agawam, with their last four victories, have qualified for the tournament once again. The Brownies cruised in the past week with 3-0 victories over Ludlow, and have had two victories over Westfield. Against Westfield last Thursday afternoon, the Brownies needed one extra point to capture a 26-24 win in the first game.



Agawam’s Cory Guardino makes a serve during the second game.

Please see VOLLEYBALL, page 18



Turley Publications photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Players from both teams head up to the net as Agawam’s Austin Harpin prepares to spike.



Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

Agawam’s Lauren Brodeur delivers a pitch in the fourth inning.

Agawam pounds Comp

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam softball team backed a great effort by Lauren Brodeur as the offense struck for seven runs in the second inning and five runs in the fifth to pace their offense to a 13-1 mercy-rule shortened victory over visiting Chicopee Comp Monday afternoon.

The Brownies took advantage of some miscues in the field, but overall outmatched the Comp pitchers as they pounded out 15 hits in the game.

After a tough first inning, the Brownies

bats broke out in a big way as they sent 13 hitters to the plate.

The bottom of the Brownies order got the inning started as Marissa Mias sent a single to left field to start the inning. One out later, Brodeur reached base on an error.

Danielle Stratton then kept the inning going by reaching on a misplay that resulted in everyone being safe. Paige Circosta then came up and socked a triple to deep left field and made the score 3-0.

She was followed by a hard single to left by Rielly Wieners, making it 4-0. Re-

Please see SOFTBALL, page 17

Turley columnist perishes in car accident

Editor’s Note: Our long-time sports columnist and voice of the Red Sox, Carleton Beane, 59, of Holland, died in a one-car vehicle accident on Holland Road in Sturbridge Wednesday afternoon, according to Worcester District Attorney Joseph D. Early. No one else was involved in or injured in the crash.

All the staff here at Turley Publications, Inc. is deeply saddened and shocked by this breaking news event that occurred at our presstime.

With extended friends and family of Carle’s still being notified, we decided to wait to post the news online later this week, and then publish a fitting tribute to our beloved friend, mentor and co-worker in next week’s edition. We decided to publish his popular column this week at a memorial to his life and the countless people he touched.

Agawam track sets school record



NORTHAMPTON - The Agawam boys varsity track and field 4x800 meter relay team set a new school record at the Dr. George Steele Relays in Northampton recently. The unit of (from left to right) junior Ben Parzich, senior Ricky Schoolcraft, senior Tyler Roberts and junior Mike Andre set a new time of 8 minutes, 30.80 seconds. The boys also won the 4x400, and came in second in the pole vault relay and third in the high jump relay. The girls also won the

Lady Brownies on verge of postseason

Outscore Amherst 10-3 in second half

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam girls lacrosse team continues to excel as they upped their record to 9-2-1 for the season with victories over Amherst and South Hadley.

On Monday afternoon, the Brownies took care of host Amherst 18-9 in a game that had the chance to go in the Hurricanes’ favor during the first half.

Agawam’s offense was on and scoring, but the Hurricanes did not give up as they continued to press the Brownies Jordyn Conway as well. As halftime approached, Amherst just trailed 8-5 and came out aggressively to start the second half.

But the Brownies defense came up big and Agawam scored 10 of the 13 goals in the second half to pull away for the win.

Riley Hellstein continues to excel with a nine-point performance, scoring five goals and assisting with four other goals. She continues her torrid pace this season with another excellent game.

Also contributing was Kristina Kopyscinski, who had three goals and four assists for seven total points on the afternoon, and Taylor Lunden also had a hat trick, scoring three goals for the Brownies.

Lunden had the game of her life last Thursday afternoon in a wild affair at South Hadley, won by the Brownies 20-11.

In the win, Lunden scored 10 goals and assisted in two for career highs in both points and goals in one game. Hellstein was not overlooked, scoring six goals and assisting in three others. The scoring pair could not be stopped by the Tigers, who did some

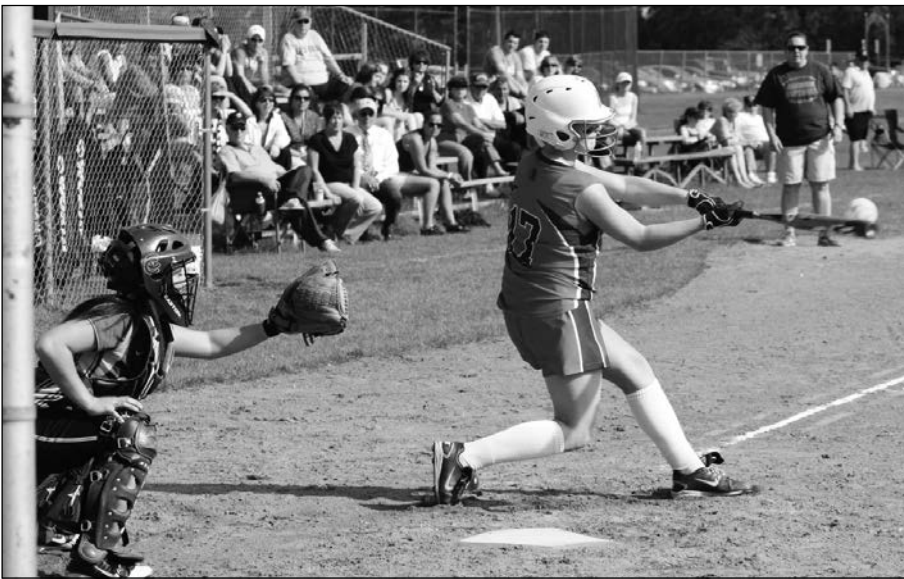
scoring of their own, but could not match Agawam’s offensive output.

The Brownies have a big game ahead of them coming up Friday when they must travel to Longmeadow to face the Lancers at 3:30 p.m. Longmeadow owns one of Agawam’s two defeats this season.

The boys lacrosse team continues to tread water this season, and moved back to .500 after losing three straight with an 8-3 win over Monson last Friday afternoon on the road.

Agawam’s victory was keyed by good offense coming out of the gate in both halves. The Brownies led 4-1 after one quarter before their offense sputtered in the second quarter. But Agawam recovered to notch three more goals in the third quarter to cruise to the win.

Agawam’s defense played very well, shutting out the Mustangs in the second and crucial fourth quarter. Bobby Koziol and Tahir Blair combined for seven saves in goal. Agawam got scoring from Chris Breault,



Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

Agawam’s Paige Circosta makes solid contact on a double.

The Week Ahead

Thursday, May 10
Boys Lacrosse
Agawam at Holyoke Catholic (at Nash Park in Chicopee) 4 p.m.
Boys Tennis
Agawam at Westfield 4 p.m.
Boys Track and Field
Agawam and East Longmeadow at Holyoke 4 p.m.
Boys Volleyball
Agawam at West Springfield 5 p.m.

Friday, May 11
Baseball
Agawam at Amherst (at Community Field in Amherst) 7 p.m.
Girls Lacrosse
Agawam at Longmeadow 3:30 p.m.
Softball
West Springfield at Agawam 3:30 p.m.
Girls Tennis
West Springfield at Agawam 4 p.m.
Boys Volleyball
Ludlow at Agawam 5 p.m.

Saturday, May 12
No games scheduled.

Sunday, May 13
No games scheduled.

Monday, May 14
Boys Lacrosse
St. Mary’s at Agawam 4 p.m.
Girls Lacrosse
Agawam at Minnechaug 5 p.m.
Softball
Amherst at Agawam 5 p.m.
Boys Tennis
Agawam at South Hadley (at Mt. Holyoke College in South Hadley) 4 p.m.

Girls Tennis
South Hadley at Agawam 4 p.m.

Tuesday, May 15
Baseball
Cathedral at Agawam 4 p.m.
Girls Tennis
Agawam at Cathedral (at Forest Park in Springfield) 4 p.m.
Boys Volleyball
Sabis at Agawam 6 p.m.

Wednesday, May 16
Girls Lacrosse
Agawam at East Longmeadow 7 p.m.
Softball
Minnechaug at Agawam 4:30 p.m.
Girls Track and Field
Agawam at Minnechaug 4 p.m.

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Falcons too much for Brownies

By Nate Rosenthal

Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

WILBRAHAM – Despite their struggles this season, the Agawam baseball team has been competitive in most of the games it has played. While they have lost 10 games, four of them have come by one run. In several others, a big inning made the difference.

The latter was the case against Minnechaug this week. A five-run second put the Falcons seemingly in control at 6-0, but then the resilient Brownies got right back into the game with a four-run third. Minnechaug, needing the win, to qualify for the postseason would eventually pull away, but the Brownies acquitted themselves well.

Falcon hurler Jason Erhardt had his strikeout pitch going in the first getting all three outs that way. In between there was a walk to Anthony Ingraham. Minnechaug quickly loaded the bases on singles by, Chris Daigneault, Greg Heineman and Kevin White before the first out. Kevin Baker hit a fly to right that scored Daigneault for a 1-0 Falcon lead. Tyler Karam led off the Brownie second with a triple, but he got stranded there, as Erhardt struck the next two batters and got a ground out to end the inning.

The Falcons then went to work. Todd Kosel led off with a walk and went to second on a Joe Noble single. When attempt pickoff of Noble went into right field, Kosel came all the way in to score. Phil Pickering walked and Daigneault sacrificed both and Noble to second and third. Then Heineman launched a ball over the fence in left field to make it 5-0. White blooped a single and then with two outs Bryan Goossens doubled him in for the inning's fifth run.

Agawam, for its part, had a loud response. Dominick Groux led off with a single and

after the first out Ingraham singled. Lyne then singled in Groux for the first Agawam run. A ground rule double by Zack Sabadosa plated Ingraham and a sacrifice fly by Karam scored Lyne. The Brownies got their fourth run of the inning when Chris Goralczyk reached on an error that allowed Sabadosa to score. Just like that, it was 6-4 and Agawam was back in the game.

Cody Sheehan, who had come in to the game for Agawam in the second gave up a couple of walks in the Minnechaug third, but kept them off the board. Erhardt, however, settled down and proceeded to retire the next eight batters until a walk with two outs in the sixth.

Meanwhile, Minnechaug went about getting those runs back. They scored twice in the fourth, as Goossens doubled in Baker. He then scored on a groundout by Kosel. White singled home Heineman in the fifth and Ryan Leonard singled home Goossens who had just gotten his third double of the game.

Agawam scored one more run in the seventh, as Lyne singled in Matt Ottomaniello who had doubled.

The Brownies had seven hits, four of which came in the second inning. Lyne had a two-hit day and drove in two runs.

In other action, Agawam lost 7-3 to East Longmeadow, managing but one hit in the game. Two runs in the top of the seventh did them in against Holyoke for a 4-3 final. They outhit the Knights 11-4, with Lyne pitching a gem. He also had two hits, as did Billy Egan, Tyler Karam, Zach Jendrysik and Chris Goralczyk.

Nate Rosenthal is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at dforbes@turley.com.

VOLLEYBALL, from page 16

They then took the momentum to win the second and third games of the match 25-16 and 25-16 to capture the shutout.

The Brownies' pace this season is continuing to parallel their huge undefeated season that led to a Western Massachusetts Division 1 championship.

In the 13 matches this season, the Brownies have lost individual games just twice.

Last year, the Brownies lost few matches

during the regular season, and were only defeated once during the tournament. Agawam's only loss last season came during the state tournament, which they lost 3-1.

Agawam was scheduled for their second league matchup of the year against Ludlow Wednesday night and will travel to West Springfield Thursday at 5 p.m.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.



Turley Publications photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Agawam's Chase Nelson bumps the ball after a serve.

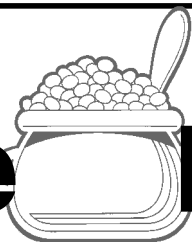


Agawam's Zachary Goggins makes a set shot.



Agawam's Wade Robidoux spikes the ball and scores a point for the Brownies.

The Beane Pot



by Carl Beane

Inmates still running Sox asylum

Time for change is now

Hello ladies and gentlemen boys and girls and welcome to the Beanepot. Remember when the baseball season began with new hope that the problems and attitudes that destroyed the 2011 Red Sox season would vanish? Time and again we heard that with a new manager there would be a cleansing of the poison atmosphere in the clubhouse. We are still waiting aren't we? Here's what we know. . . Bobby Valentine doesn't run the clubhouse, the inmates do and it isn't good. He hasn't done a very good job thus far but it is not all his fault, there are still massive problems with this team starting with the pitching.

Over the years the Red Sox always had a stopper, a guy that when he went to the mound they had a real good chance to win that day. Roger Clemens, Bruce Hurst, Pedro Martinez, and Curt Schilling just to name a few took great pride in stopping losing streaks. Just a few years ago guys like Josh Beckett and Jon Lester had that responsibility. Now, Beckett, Lester and Clay Buchholz are a coin flip. The most disappointing of all is Lester. Just a few years back he was being compared to Sandy Koufax now he pitches like Sandy Duncan. He continues to run up his pitch count and is done in six innings and complains about not getting strike calls from umpires. He has



inherited the bad attitude of Beckett and it's doing him no good at all. I believe that Buchholz is still recovering from his back injury, and the bullpen is for the most part a disaster. To top it off this team is hitting less than .200 with runners in scoring position. Clearly all is not well at Fenway Park.

Maybe it's time for the ownership to stop paying so much attention to Liverpool soccer, and Rouch Racing and the almighty sellout streak and fix this team. They haven't won a playoff game in three years, and if they do not make the playoff this year it just might be time to blow this team up and start over. Because it appears there are too many guys wearing the Red Sox uniform that don't give a damn about anything but their salary. You the fan care more about this team than the some of the players do and that is unacceptable. There is plenty of season left in which to correct this, but they'd better get started soon.

Very sad to hear the terrible injury to Mariano Rivera who tore his ACL last week. Never mind the uniform, Mo is a great guy and the greatest closer now and forever. I hope he heals and comes back next year. He is truly a class act. Amen.

Carl Beane can be reached at cbeane@carlbeane.com or via his website www.carlbeane.com

Sports Calendar

Summer brochure now online

AGAWAM - The Parks and Recreation Summer Brochure is now available online at www.agawam.ma.us under the "Life & Leisure" tab.

Feline Friends Golf Tournament

SOUTHWICK - The Feline Friends Golf Tournament will take place on May 20 at The Ranch Golf Club.

The cost is \$160 per person to signup or \$140 if you register early.

The event starts at 12:30 p.m.

The dinner only event is \$35.

Cost includes 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch and dinner.

For more information, call Tonya at 413-364-1808.

Agawam Small Business Assistance Center to hold annual golf tournament

AGAWAM - The Agawam Small Business Assistance Center (ASBAC) will be holding their annual "Tee Time" golf tournament on Tuesday, May 22 at the Oakridge Golf Club, 850 South Westfield St.

This year the tournament will be a full 18 holes. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. with teeoff at 10 a.m.

Their will be a lunch served on the course and cocktails and hors d'ourves following the tournament.

Prizes will be awarded for closest to the pin, longest drive (man and woman) and

hole in one.

There will also be a 50-50 raffle.

The cost is only \$95.

Tee sponsors are welcomed and asked to contact Dino Gravanis at 413-427-4699. Golfers can also call Dino or sign up at the ASBAC website at asbac.net.

This is the ASBAC's major fund-raiser for the year and we appreciate your support.

ASBAC's mission is to help support small business in all of Western Mass through training, free business seminars and referrals.

Teams wanted for Casagrande Tournament

LUDLOW - The 11th annual Lou Casagrande Baseball Tournament is set for July 25-29.

Teams are needed in all divisions for this tournament.

The cost is \$275 per team with a guarantee of at least three games.

No refunds will be allowed.

The rain date is Aug. 1-5.

Contact Bob Bohl at 413-348-5752 or bohl58@charter.net for more information.

Bay State Games West Girls Soccer tryouts

WESTFIELD - Tryouts for the 2012 Bay State Games West girls soccer team will be held at North Middle School, 350 Southamp-
Please see CALENDAR, page 19

Pioneers ready to kick off new campaign

Season opens Friday at home against Seacoast

By Tim Peterson
Turley Publications Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW - The Western Mass. Pioneers, which was founded in 1997, will be kicking off their 2012 campaign against the Seacoast United Phantoms at Lusitano Stadium at 7:30 p.m. on Friday.

The Pioneers, who are members of the USL Premier Development League, are hoping to make a return trip to the playoffs after finishing with a below .500 record a year ago.

“This will be our third season competing in the Premier Development League and there are a lot of very talented players in this league,” said Pioneers President Celso Correia. “We’re hoping to have a winning season. We played pretty well in our first five or six games last season, but then we suffered some injuries and we had some other players leave the team for personal reasons.”

The two most memorable years in the Pioneers history were 1999 and 2005. The Pioneers captured the USLD-3 Pro League championship in front of a standing room only crowd at Lusitano Stadium in 1999.

In 2005, the Pioneers were regular season champions and they lost a heartbreaker in the National Championship match, which was also played at the stadium.

While the Pioneers will be playing their season opener on Friday night, the Phantoms, who play their home games in Portsmouth, N.H., will be playing their second match of the season. They posted a 1-0 shut-out victory against the Worcester Hydra last Saturday night.

“Seacoast is one of our biggest rivals. It’s kind of like the rivalry between Red Sox and the Yankees,” Correia said. “They might have already played a match, but we’ll be playing in front of our home fans. We had the second highest home attendance in the league last year.”

There was a good sized crowd at Lusitano Stadium last Sunday afternoon, as the Pioneers defeated the Milford Lusitanos FC, 5-0, in a preseason scrimmage.

“It’s a nice way to begin our season,” said Pioneers first-year head coach Federico Molinari. “I think we’re going to have a very good team this year, but we’ll need to keep working hard.”

Molinari, who had played for the Pioneers for the past seven years, was named as the new head coach during the offseason. He’s also an assistant men’s soccer coach AIC.

“Federico has been an assistant coach for the past couple of years and he’s looking to move up the ranks. This is a very good job for him,” said Pioneers General Manager Greg Kolodziey. “During his outstanding playing career, Federico was a league all-star and he was a fan favorite.”

Kolodziey, who has guided the Ludlow boys’ soccer team to back-to-back state ti-

ties, also thinks the Pioneers will be a fun team for the fans to watch this spring and summer.

“We’re very optimistic about our chances this season because we have a good group of talented soccer players,” he said. “We also have a lot of new players on the team, which is pretty common in the PDL Division. We always have to start over every year, but it’s still a lot of fun.”

One player who the Pioneers fans should be very familiar with is Jay Willis, who helped the Ludlow boys soccer team win two state titles back in the 1990’s. He’s currently the head men’s soccer coach at Worcester State University. He’s listed as an assistant coach on the Pioneers roster, but Molinari talked him into playing this season.

“I’m so happy that Jay decided to play for us this year,” Molinari said. “He’s a very good team leader and he’s also a very good player.”

Willis, who’s 31, is the oldest player on the Pioneers team this year. He was one of the defenders in the scrimmage against Milford.

“I didn’t play soccer last year, but I did play for this team the previous seven years,” Willis said. “I’m a little bit tired, but it felt good to get back out on the field today. It’s going to be a lot of fun playing with the younger guys on this team and I think we’re going to do very well this season.”

Another former Ludlow High soccer player on the Pioneers team is Jayme Kapinos, who’s also a defensive player. Chris Pereira, who helped the Lions win a state title two years ago, is also listed on the Pioneers roster, but he was a member of the Pioneers U-20 team last year.

“I coached both Chris and Jayme when they were in high school,” Kolodziey said. “It’s very exciting for me watching both of them play with the older guys on this team.”

The other returning Pioneers players are: Alex Elia, Chris Roswess, Chris Stoker, Sam DeMello, Trey Jasenski, Austin Hughes, Alejandro Sucre, and Ryan Malone.

Malone, who was an outstanding soccer player at Chicopee Comp, was a sophomore member of the Springfield College men’s soccer team last fall.

“All of the players at this level have a lot more skill and ability than the players at the Division 3 college level do,” said Malone, who’s a forward. “It’s definitely a lot more difficult at this level.”

Malone, who played in about half of the Pioneers games last year because of injuries, scored a pair of first half goals during last Sunday’s scrimmage.

“I think we’re going to be a much better team than we were last year,” he said. “It’s going to take a little bit of time, but we do have a lot of very good players on this team.”

Please see PIONEERS, page 27

Results from the Triathlon

LUDLOW - The sixth annual Sheriff’s Sprint Triathlon was held on Sunday, April 29. The race featured a 30-yard swim, an 8.59-mile bike and a 3.17-mile run.



Turley Publications photos by David Henry sweet-dogphotos.com

Maria Mikuszewski (#41) finished 96th overall and sixth in her 35-39 age group with a time of 1 hour, 10 minutes, 22 seconds.



Paul Mikuszewski (#149) finished second overall and first in his 35-39 age group with a time of 47:11.



Wayne Ball (#19) finished 33rd overall and third in his 35-39 age group with a time of 56:23.

CALENDAR, from page 18

ton Road, from 6 to 8 p.m. on the following dates: June 6, 7, 11, 12 and 13.

Please Pre-register for tryouts. All information for the Games, registration, and coach Keith Saltmarsh is available at www.baystategames.org.

Peter Picknelly ‘Women In Business’ golf tournament

SOUTHWICK - Western Mass Women Magazine will be holding their first Peter Picknelly Sr. “Women In Business” Golf Tournament on June 26 at the Ranch Golf Club, 65 Sunnyslope Road.

The tournament will include a Bar-b-que lunch, goodie bags, GPS golf cart and awards dinner featuring actress and show host Alike Hope.

There will also be a raffle, and a silent auction. There will be new pool or hot tub for a hole in one, compliments of Teddy Bear Pools, and great prizes for closest to the pin, longest drive and closest to the line. One for a man and one for a woman on each category.

All net proceeds will go to the Peter Picknelly Sr. Women in Business Scholarship

Fund. This fund is to assist women who has suffered hardships, or raised their family and would like to go into the workforce or start her own business and needs further college or vocational education. You can be instrumental in making a difference in the life of a Western Mass woman. Play for a purpose.

The cost per golfer is \$130. Registration time is 11 a.m. Tee time is 12:30 p.m. Deadline for sign up is June 19.

Golfers can make their check out to the Peter Picknelly Sr. Golf Tournament and send to Western Mass Women Magazine, 525 Springfield St. Suite O, Feeding Hills, MA 01030 or pay by Master Card, Visa, Discover, AMX at the secure pay pal location on the website at westernmasswomen.com.

The tournament is being sponsored by Peter Pan Bus Lines.

More sponsorships are welcomed. If your company would like to sponsor this very important tournament or for more information please call Dee or Lori at 413-888-4019.

To get your organization’s information placed in the Agawam Advertiser News, contact Sports Editor Dave Forbes at 413-283-8393 ext. 237 or send an email to dforbes@turley.com.

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Business

Park Square Realty celebrates 25 years

By Sarah Platanitis

Turley Publications Correspondent

AGAWAM - Park Square Realty will celebrate two milestone anniversaries in the coming months: the company's 25th year of being in business and a decade of operation in their Feeding Hills office.

Ted Cassell, the broker-owner of Park Square Realty, worked as a sales agent for eight years before he bought the Westfield boutique real estate firm founded in 1987 by his mother, Carolyn Cassell-Coughlen and her realtor colleagues Kate Cheeber and Jeanne Mitchell, in 2001.

"What differentiates us is that we've done well and we're a locally-owned company. We're not a national franchise brand but they are our competition," said Cassell. "People like dealing with local realtors and local banks. We've built a niche of our own."

The goal was to grow the company and soon Cassell opened a second Feeding Hills office. He brought Barry Boccasile on board as director of growth and development and the little 10-person company gradually expanded to its current total of 46 employees between the two offices.

Park Square Realty sells all over Western Mass. and into Connecticut but their main focus is the "West of the River" quadrant of Agawam, Westfield, Southwick and West Springfield. Many of the Park Square realtors and agents live or grew up in Agawam and Feeding Hills so they know the area well and it's what strengthens the company's ties to the community.

"Our agents work very hard and they adapt to market conditions. It's been successful but it takes time and patience. Seeing the market improve, it's definitely much more challenging with the many factors involved but it's a much different market than even last

year between interest rates, confidence and employment numbers increasing," said Boccasile.

Last year, Park Square Realty ranked number one for MLS transactions in their area and has already seen first quarter numbers double this year for properties showings, open house attendance and listing sales.

"Our business is relationship-based and, as much as we do marketing-wise, our agents are building relationships one person at a time. It's our job to guide them through a complex transaction.

"We've had lots of memorable sales. It's always an interesting story working with people who are retiring and it's very rewarding to work with first-time home buyers and to see them get their property," said Cassell, who stated he's seen an increase in cash buyers and investment properties.

Although the majority of Park Square Realty's listings are residential single and multi-families houses, condominiums and mobile homes, they also sell land and work with commercial properties. They recently sold a former funeral home and an office building in Westfield along with a business on Springfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Cassell and Boccasile provide a great deal of support to agents behind the scenes and they've strived to put systems and tools in place so their employees can work more efficiently and productively with buyers and sellers, especially when compared with the competition.

Park Square Realty stays on the cutting edge for those looking online. Buyers can schedule showings via the web and agents and homeowners can receive notifications via voice, email or text message. They even created enhanced listings on realtors.com and their website is linked to Facebook with updates about all of their listings and open



Turley Publications photo by Sarah Platanitis

Realtors Dee Cyr and Jeanne Garvin with Barry Boccasile, director of growth development, and Ted Cassell, broker-owner of Park Square Realty, which celebrates 25 years in business this year.

house hours.

"Some people are more technology savvy and prefer to be contacted online while others prefer a phone call. It's really evolved and we want to serve people the way they want to be served," said Boccasile, noting that they still continue to publish in and have good luck with trade media print and real estate books.

Agents are in and out of the offices all day, guiding clients through evaluations and marketing plans (home sellers are guaranteed a sale in 60 days) to negotiations and inspections after the big sale. If anything comes up,

Cassell and Boccasile are there to help solve problems and encourage.

"If our agents are successful, we're successful. Our job is to keep them motivated in the ups and downs of every day. There's nothing better than to get an email from a first-time buyer who was thrilled with their agent and experience. To me that's great because you feel good about what you're doing and that's so important on all fronts," said Cassell.

To learn more about Park Square Realty and check out their listings, visit www.park-squarerealty.com or call 413-789-9830.

Alvanos earns long-term care degree

Susan N. Alvanos, of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., with the office of Alvanos & Associates, 1349 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, has been awarded a degree in the field of long-term care. The program is independent of the insurance industry and focuses on providing financial service professionals the tools needed to meet clients' long-term care needs.



Turley Publications courtesy photo

Susan N. Alvanos

Cantell joins Park Square Realty

Ted Cassell, president of Park Square Realty, announced last week that April Cantell has re-joined Park Square Realty's Westfield office as a sales associate specializing in residential sales.

Licensed in Massachusetts and associated with the local Real Estate Association of Pioneer Valley (RAPV), Cantell has been a full-time Realtor since 2001. She has earned recognition in the real estate industry with her involvement with the RAPV and in her community. She is currently on the RAPV



board of directors and serves as the chairperson for the Realtor Public Image Task Force. In addition, Cantell has served on the RAPV Strategic Planning Committee in 2009 and 2011 and also as a liaison for RAPV's Communication Technology and Community Service Committees. She was recently awarded the RAPV Presidents Award for this past year.

Turley Publications courtesy photo

April Cantell

Legal Notices

AGAWAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Agawam Historical Commission will be holding a public hearing at **7:00 PM on Thursday, May 24, 2012**, at the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main Street. The purpose of this hearing will be to review the

Demolition Permit for 414 North Street which comes under the Town of Agawam's Demolition Delay Ordinance. By Order of

David Cecchi, Chairman
AGAWAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

5/10,5/17/12

Racing Corvett display at American Classics

The public is invited to American Classics Restaurant in Agawam on Mother's Day, May 13 for a display of a significant race car from the most famous period in sports car racing in the United States. During the 1960s and '70s, sports cars built originally for street use formed the basis for race cars, which made them instantly recognizable to loyal fans.

The number 94 1968 Leldon Blackwell Racing Team Corvette racecar competed successfully at famous racetracks such as Sebring, Daytona, Talladega, and Watkins Glen. The team's success prompted Chevrolet to utilize this car to test specially built components. The car reached speeds of 217 miles per hour during one of its Daytona outings. Renowned drivers included the SCCA National Champion, as well as a member of the USA-based Ferrari team.

The display will take place from 7 a.m. to 1p.m., weather permitting.



Turley Publications courtesy photo

The number 94 1968 Leldon Blackwell Racing Team Corvette racecar will be on display at American Classics Restaurant on Mother's Day, May 13.

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legal notices for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271.

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Church News

Mercy Me reigns at Bethany Assembly of God

By Charlann Griswold
Special to the Advertiser

The stars were out in Agawam, Thursday, May 3. If you noticed the two non-descript tour buses driving through town that afternoon you would never know who was arriving. The renowned Grammy-nominated band Mercy Me performed for a sold-out crowd of over 1,000 people at the Bethany



Mercy Me frontman Bart Millard wowed the crowd of over 1,000 people.

Assembly of God church on Main Street in Agawam. Since the band’s formation in 1994, they have released 10 CDs and has had 13 consecutive top 5 singles on the Billboard Christian Songs chart, with seven of them reaching number one. The band has also won eight Dove Awards, the Christian equivalent of a Grammy award.

Even though the doors did not open until 6 p.m. the crowd didn’t mind lining up to get the best seat in the house. The atmosphere was electrifying as patrons vied for the coveted CD, T-shirt or other memorabilia to mark the special occasion.

The local Christian radio Station Q97.9 was also there to meet and greet.

Band members Bart Millard, Nathan Cochran, Michael John Scheuchzer, Robin Shaffer, James Bryson and Barry Graul waited graciously as some lucky concertgoers lined up to meet the band.

Steven Allen from Agawam, an Assembly of God church member for over 16 years, along with his daughter Dana Hopkins and her husband James Hopkins (who traveled from Vernon, Conn.) waited patiently hoping the time would not run out before the band needed to make their appearance. No need to worry though, the band members took their time with everyone answering questions, signing autographs and posing for pictures.

The show started with opening act Moriah Peters, a 19-year-old with the voice of an angel. She delighted the crowd with songs from her album, “I Choose Jesus.”

And then the lights went low and the time had arrived. The band entered the hall and played to the delight of everyone.

We heard such popular hits as “You Reign,” “God with Us” and more.

Millard ministered occasionally to introduce each song, telling of the road the band



Turley Publications photos by Charlann Griswold

Christian chart-toppers Mercy Me performed at Bethany Assembly of God in Agawam last week. Pictured here with the band are Steven Allen from Agawam, an Assembly of God church member, along with his daughter Dana Hopkins and her husband James, of Connecticut.

had taken and its spiritual development over the years and how it reflected in their music.

The highlight was, of course, their hit, “I can only imagine.”

While most – if not all – were on their feet with raised hands, the hall truly was in the spirit.

The evening ended with a standing ovation and a curtain call to the delight of everyone in the audience.

Charlann Griswold is the circulation manager for Turley Publications Inc., based in Palmer.

In Remembrance
To submit an obituary or to place a remembrance ad, contact us at
AGAWAM
Advertiser News
23 Southwick Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
786-7747 • 786-8137
email: aan@turley.com

‘Let Freedom Sing’ at Agawam Congregational

The Agawam Congregational Church will host the “Let Freedom Sing Memorial Day Concert” at 3 p.m., Sunday, May 27 in the church sanctuary. The event, which is sponsored by the church’s Music Committee, will feature Richie Mitnick

& Friends. Tickets, which are now on sale, are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 6. They may be purchased at the church office from 8 a.m. until noon, Monday through Friday. The public is invited.

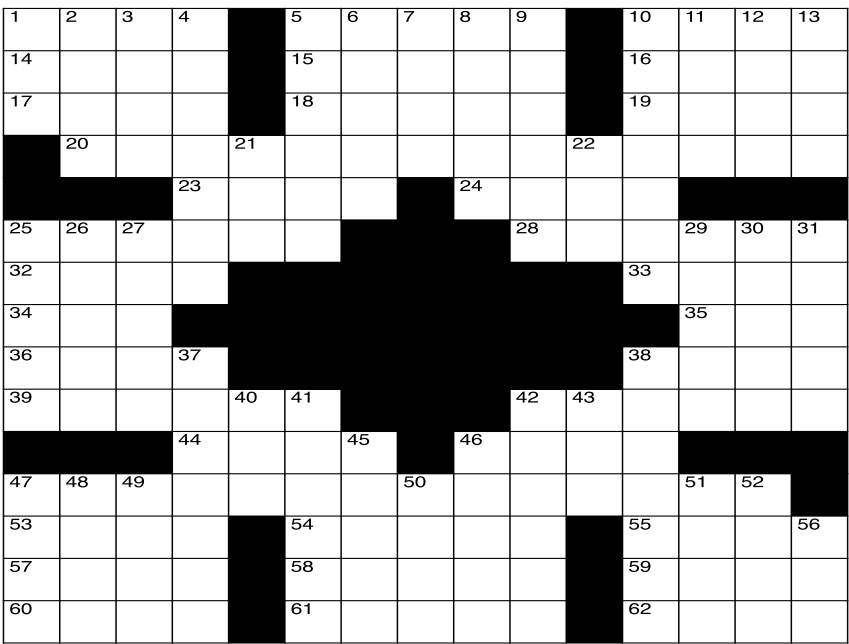
A HELPING HAND...



Turley Publications courtesy photo

Lillian Enko

WEST SPRINGFIELD - Lillian Enko, a member of the “Needlers” at Grace Lutheran Church at 1552 Westfield St., is shown working on a receiving blanket for the women at the Bethlehem House Pregnancy Care Center, where young mothers and mothers-to-be receive help and support. This is one of many of the projects that the “Needlers” group has undertaken. For more information about Bethlehem House, call (413) 527-2861.



- CLUES ACROSS**
1. Irish mother of gods
5. Provides weapons
10. Hyperbolic cosecant
14. Kilt nationality
15. Mexican artist Rivera
16. Circle of light around the sun
17. What a clock tells
18. To condescend to give
19. Chocolate cookie with white cream filling
20. Harry Potter star
23. Without (French)
24. A dissolute man
25. Resecure a book
28. Blanketlike shawl
32. Opaque gem
33. Biblical name for Syria
34. Mail call box abbreviation
35. Mined metal-bearing mineral
36. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
38. After a prayer
39. Baseball’s world championship
42. Knights’ tunic
44. Small pigeon shelter
46. Meredith, Johnson & Shula
47. 20th U.S. President
53. Pitcher Hershiser
54. Sans _____: typeface
55. High water tide
57. Sew up a falcon’s eyelids
58. Mexican plant fiber
59. Taxis
60. Fermented rice beverage
61. A mode of living
62. Formerly (archaic)
CLUES DOWN
1. Fall back time
2. Has a sour taste
3. Gangrenous inflammation
4. Spoon or fork
5. What is added to the augend
6. Cambodian monetary units
7. Golda ____, Israeli P. M.
8. “Walk Don’t Run” actress Samantha
9. Often the last movements of a sonata
10. Contaminated water disease
11. Indian dress
12. Musical pitch symbol
13. Horse foot sheath
21. 007’s Flemming
22. A billiards stick
25. Catches with a lasso
26. 3rd part of a Greek ode
27. Elephant’s name
29. Distinctive odor that is pleasant
30. A small sharp fruit knife
31. Improve by critical editing
37. Droplet in a colloidal system
38. Failure to be present
40. Winged goddess of the dawn
41. Static balance between opposing forces
42. Treacle candy
43. Black tropical American cuckoo
45. Discharge from the body
46. Training by multiple repetitions
47. A Chinese image in a shrine
48. Length X width
49. Mild and submissive
50. Affectedly artistic
51. Tragic Shakespeare king
52. Taps gently
56. Time in far western states

In the Classroom

Agawam High School Counseling bulletin

College Acceptances:
Arthur Korotich: American International College, Holyoke Community College, Springfield Technical Community College
Tom Lemay: Drexel University, Quinnipiac University, Univ. of New Hampshire, Springfield College
Mario Rigali: UMASS Dartmouth
Allison McCluskey: UMASS Amherst, Stonehill College
Heather Gonyeau: American University
Lauren Habib: Westfield State University, Framingham State University, Springfield Technical Community College
Katie Stempel: Fairfield University
Megan Ripke: UMASS Amherst
Alicia Busco: Assumption College
Ashley Casiello: Mount Holyoke College, Columbia University
Dan Deveno: Holyoke Community College
Zak Hanchett: Wagner College, Suffolk University, Eugene Lang College
Austin Harpin: North Carolina State University
Emily Langlois: Holyoke Community College
Tiffany Littlefield: Springfield Technical Community College
Kylea McGrath: Holyoke Community College
Patrick O’Keefe: Merrimack College, University of Arizona
Christina Vilkhovoy: Mass. College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences, UMass Amherst, Springfield College
Stefen Welch: Fitchburg State University
Ashley Putnam: American International College, Holyoke Community College
Kathryn Leathem: Lewis and Clark College
Marissa Mias: UMASS Amherst
Samantha Platt: Bay Path College
Jackie Gregoire: Springfield Technical Community College, Holyoke Community College

Stefen Welch: Mass. College of Liberal Arts
Scott Smith: Western State College of Colorado, Westfield State University
Tyler Templeman: Pennsylvania State University
Samantha Lungarini: Westfield State University
Anthony Foley: Springfield Technical Community College
Open Houses: Many colleges are hosting open houses for the next few months. Check the college website for more information and to confirm date and time of the event.
Quinnipiac University: May 14
New England Institute of Art: May 19
Union College: May 28
New England Institute of Technology: June 5
New Hampshire Institute of Art: June 2

SENIORS: Seniors that are attending college in September, please bring in a stamped 4-¼ x 9-½ envelope with your name only in the upper left hand side addressed to the college you will be attending so we can send out your final transcript.

College Acceptances: Seniors, please inform the counseling department regarding any colleges that you have been accepted into immediately so that we may post your accomplishments.

Cornell University Summer College: Cornell offers pre-college programs for talented high school students. Experience the excitement of college life, take college courses with renowned faculty, and enjoy an “unforgettable, life-changing summer.” Visit www.sce.cornell.edu/sc/ for more information.

Assumption College Summer Program: Assumption is offering a five-day, no-cost residential program from June 25-29 for juniors. Students will engage in classroom discussions with Assumption faculty, visit local and regional sites to see

art, history and politics in action, live in a college residence hall, eat in the cafeteria and be taken on a road trip to Boston. Students interesting in applying for this selective program can register at www.assumption.edu/summer2012.

Duke Univ., Harvard Univ., Georgetown Univ., UPENN and Stanford: College representatives from each of these colleges/universities will give a presentation. Dates for local locations are: May 13 at the Boston/Burlington Marriott on Burlington Mall Rd., May 14 at the Boston/Quincy Marriott on Marriott Dr. or May 16 at the Marriott Rocky Hill in Rocky Hill, Conn. on Capitol Blvd. Choose the location that works best for you. The presentations began at 7:30 p.m. and end at 9:30 p.m.

Northeastern Univ. College of Engineering: Will host a day for freshman-juniors to learn what engineering is all about. The program “Building Bridges” will be held May 18. Northeastern also hosts “Engineering Wednesdays” which are mini open houses beginning at 10:30 a.m. in the Admissions Visitor Center. Contact the university for more information.

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid): Remember to fill out. There are many AHS families that have not completed this yet and could be missing priority filing deadlines at many colleges. Apply online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>.

Scholarships: See your counselor or visit the websites for more information or an application:
American Ground Water Trust; Hampden County Improvement League; BigSun Scholarship; Western Mass. Trustees Scholarship; Big E Ruby Morris 4-H; ESE 4-H Beef Scholarship; Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; Live Poets Society of New Jersey; New England Counselors of Color Bridging Access to College (NECBAC); Massachusetts Flower Growers’ Association; Society of Women Engineers; B. Davis Scholarship.

ARTIST VISITS, INSPIRES AHS STUDENTS



Turley Publications courtesy photo

This blonde ticket-taker with popcorn is “Pauline,” sculpted by artist Lisa Lichtenfels, who visited Agawam High School recently. This sculpture was included as part of Lichtenfels’s show in Springfield in 2005.

Sculptor and children’s book illustrator, Lisa Lichtenfels, visited the painting and drawing class of Deb Florek at Agawam High School recently to share some of her most current artwork.

Lichtenfels was just exhibited in a one-woman art show of her own children’s books in New York this winter. Over 80 artists from all over the world also participated in the show.

Lichtenfels shared her three-dimensional sculpting work, which she made using nylon and fabric to create intricately detailed figures. Any props she includes - clothing or a chair for a seated sculpture, Lichtenfels creates herself.

“Lisa’s sculptures are used as exemplars for our 3D sculpture classes,” said Florek. “Her work is in the same realm of sculptor Duane Hanson.”

According to Florek, Lichtenfels’s sculptures tell a bit about each work and, when placed in a group, tell a story. She credited Lichtenfels with helping to inspire students at the high school.

“Lisa had been so busy with shows that it was amazing that she could take time to share her talents with AHS art students. She is so talented,” said Florek

For more information on Lichtenfels and her artwork, visit www.lisalichtenfels.net.

Roberta G. Doering Term 3 Honor Roll

Grade 6

Aviella Abramchuk, Drilona Ahmeti, Mergim Ahmeti, Camille Aloisi, Lenox Alves, Nicholas Archambault, Meagan Arslanian, Brianne Aubrey, Morgan Baker, Emily Bartlett, Alexander Bishop, Lauren Blackak, Jeremy Bogacz, Jessica Bonfiglio, Jacob Boucher, Lauren Callahan, Nicole Capponcelli, Michael Caracciolo, Joshua Carrier, Nicholas Casamento, Adriana Chaika, Sophia Chrisanthopoulos, Dylan Christy, Erin Consedine, Dominique Counos, Caitlin Courtney, Alicia Crochetiere, Alyson Crochetiere, Samantha Cross, Caleigh Croteau, Santino Curto, Natalie Dean, Bianca DeSimone, Zachary Dion, Nicole Dobrowolski, Yuki Dong, Nicole Dougherty, Paige Edwards, Nicholas Faillace, Jonathan Farrell, Amanda Faucher, Kristen Fellion, Katerina Fenney, Samantha Fett, Rachel Florence, Emma Fogarty, Nicholas Frigo, Grace Frogameni, Brianna Fryer, Kyle Garner, Brianna Gaynor, Jenna Gouvan, Ryan Graham, Steven Grasso, Jenna Gravel, Thomas Grenier, Ethan Gulla, Emily Habrat, Lindsay Hartmann, Callum Hastings, Jonathan Heelon, Reiley, Heffernan, Joseph Hendrickson, Abbie Hoban, Paige Hollander, Quinnlyn Hunt, Domenic Ingham, Matthew Iserman, Karli James, David Javadian, Cassandra Jones, Adam Kerr, Kristina Kinchak, Sarah Krafcik, Matthew LaFramboise, Derek Lafreniere, Nicholas Lamari, Nicole Langevin, Cassidy Laudato, Haley Laudato, Kayla Laurie, Jarrod Lemke, Madison Lockwood, Dion Lollis, Sara Lubarsky, Jaden Luke, Veniamin Lukin, Nicole Luna, Connor MacCinchy, Andrew MacDonald, Colin Mahoney, Shaun Mateus, Agnessa Melnik, Elizabeth Milliken, Robert Mirolli, Amanda Moquin, Michaela Moreau, Kari-rissa Morin, Jacob Murphy, Danielle Murray, Jared Murray, Alysssha Nadeau, Jacob Neal, Carina Nesen, Anahita Nimbalkar, Caitlin Normoyle, Mathew O’Keefe, Meagan Olson, Zachary Quimette, Dean-

na Pahl, Dario Papallo, Sadie Parrotta, Nil Patel, Logan Pearson, Collin Pelchat, Domenic Pellegrino, Riley Pelter, Connor Pender, Cabull Pickton, Kyle Pilon, Justin Poirier, Katelyn Poirier, Julia Potter, Michael Reardon, Nicholas Rempp, Christina Richard, Grace Rinaldi, Kyana Rivera, Quinn Robinson, Matthew Rogalski, Matthew Rowe, Sonia Rubeck, Jessica Santaniello, Christina Savushkina, Jacob Sawyer, Audrey Shuart, Hannah Siefken, Nina Signorelli, Laura Snow, Liam Sole, Quinne Stoddard, Jordan Streete, Brianna Taft, Angela Taliceo, Kaylee Tang, Corey Taylor, Eliza Timms, Michael Urban, Spencer Vivenzio, Benjamin Vyce, Jacob White, Brandon Whitehead, Jake Wieners, Brea Wier, Shannon Williams, Zachary Williams, Mara Winer, Theodore Woods, Isabella Yacovone, Fatima Zahoor.

Grade 5

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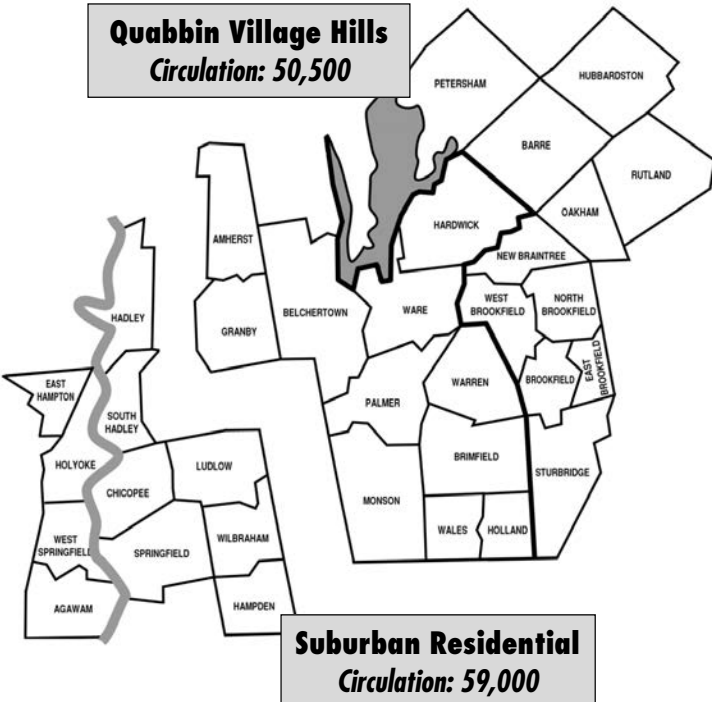
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Out & About

Send all community calendar items to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 786-8457 or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. Please list time, date and place of event, contact information and a brief description of the activity involved. Deadline for all community submissions is noon on Monday.

Friday, May 11

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 361 Sumner Ave., Springfield will hold its semi-annual rummage sale from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A \$6 bag day will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, call the church office at (413) 737-5311 or Peg Commisso at (413) 525-2719.

Saturday, May 12

THE AGAWAM GARDEN CLUB will hold its annual plant sale from 9 a.m. to noon in the parking lot of Sacred Heart Church, 1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. The sale will be held rain or shine. Hundreds of perennial and some annual plants will be available with prices from \$2 to \$4 depending on the size and rarity. Proceeds will benefit the club's scholarship fund.

A MOTHER'S DAY PLANT SWAP AND SALE will be held at Curves, 16 Southwick St., Feeding Hills (in the Crossroads Plaza), from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Proceeds to benefit Relay for Life. Many items will be available from local gardeners and garden centers.

Tuesday, May 15

KNITTING INSTRUCTOR SANDY ELIS is at the Agawam Public Library the first Tuesday of the month now through May at the Adult Drop-In Sit & Knit program to offer troubleshooting help and introduce new projects as well. Adult Drop-In Sit & Knit meets Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m. at the library and anyone is welcome. It is for adults 18 and older and no registration is necessary.

THE AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FAMILY PLAY GROUP offers

crafts, stories, songs, free play and more on Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Playgroup is open to children birth through age 5 with a parent or caregiver, and takes place at the church located at 745 Main St. For more information, email jbrownacc@verizon.net or call the office at 786-7111.

THE AGAWAM SENIOR CENTER will host a free movie at 12:30 p.m. ("Dolphin Tale"). The public is welcome.

FIRST PARK MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH, corner of Forest Park Ave. and Garfield Street in Springfield, has a Prayer Shawl Ministry that meets every Tuesday at 2 p.m. in the church parlor. Participants enjoy fellowship while creating shawls for those who need them. Every level of knitting or crocheting is welcome. The public is invited to join. For more information, call the church office at 734-1715.

Wednesday, May 16

THE CHILDREN'S PLAY GROUP of First Park Memorial Baptist Church, corner of Forest Park Avenue and Garfield Street in Springfield, meets every Wednesday from 10-11:30 a.m. This is an opportunity for mothers or fathers and their pre-school age children to get-together and socialize, share, play and laugh. For more information, call the church office at (413) 734-1715.

Thursday, May 17

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "Restoration of the Tiffany Stained Glass Windows in the G.W.V. Smith Art Museum," featuring Charles Woodard and David Guarducci of Guarducci Stained Glass Studios, at 12:15 p.m. in the Museum of Fine Arts, 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

UPCOMING AND ONGOING

THE AGAWAM FRIENDS OF HOMELESS CATS will host "Coffee House for Cool Cats," Friday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m. in

the Agawam Senior Center cafeteria. Proceeds to help in the care of lost, abandoned, feral and homeless cats. The event will include performances by several musicians, including Agawam's Darcy Davis. Suggested donation, \$10. For tickets or to sign up to sing, call Kate Shepard at (413) 786-3672 or email Kshep873091@verizon.net.

A GARDEN-RELATED CRAFT FAIR, PLANT AND BAKE SALE will take place at the 1st Congregational Church on the rotary in East Longmeadow, Saturday, May 19 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. There will be a raffle for the "Gardener's Gift Basket," free coffee and a bake sale, and a large variety of perennials, ground covers, small shrubs, flowering vines, and garden related accessories, books, and supplies. The event will be held rain or shine.

THE AGAWAM HISTORICAL ASSOC. will hold its first event of the 2012 season Sunday, May 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Historic Thomas Smith House, 251 North West St., Feeding Hills. A program of Herbal Folklore will be presented by Master Gardener Judy Anderson. The public is invited to explore the many myths and superstitions of herbs throughout the centuries.

THE FIRST BOB "WHO" RENNELL MEMORIAL AGAWAM YOUTH FISHING DAY will be held Sunday, May 20 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the West Springfield Fish and Game Club, 329 Garden St., Feeding Hills. The event is open to all Agawam youth 16 and under as well as club members' kids. Food and beverages will be available. Bait will be available at the clubhouse. No fishing license required. For more information, call the clubhouse at 786-5925.

THE MANHAN BENEFIT RAIL TRAIL BREAKFAST is scheduled for Sunday, May 20 from 9 to 11 a.m. at the American Legion, 190 Pleasant St., Easthampton. Suggested donation is \$5 and will benefit the Manhan Rail Trail.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS will hold a blood drive Friday, May 25 from noon to 6 p.m. at the Agawam Fire Department, 800

Main St. In May, all presenting donors will receive a coupon for a free Small Whopper Combo Meal or garden fresh salad from Burger King. Prizes are non-transferable and not redeemable for cash. To make an appointment, call (800) 733-2767 or log onto redcrossblood.org.

A CARD, COIN AND MEMORABILIA SHOW will be held Sunday, June 3 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Chicopee Boys and Girls Club, 580 Meadow St. Admission is \$1; kids under 10 are free. There will be over 40 tables, a door prize drawing every 30 minutes, and the club is handicap accessible. For more information, call (413) 593-6046.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL LACE 'EM UP FOR LEXI 5K Run/Walk will be held Saturday, June 9 at the Agawam Junior High School. The race is held in memory of Lexi Jagodowski to benefit Griffin's Friends, a cancer charity that brings moments of joy to courageous kids. In addition to the 5K race, there will be races for kids 10 and under, a bounce house and more. Applications and information are available online at www.Lexi96.org and at the Agawam Public Library.

THE WESTFIELD ATHENAEUM will present "Jazz Renditions of Songs from the American Songbook," with Roger Bruno and Ellen Schwartz of the jazz duo Too Human, as part of the Athenaeum's spring lecture series, Wednesday, June 13 at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public and will be held in the Jasper Rand Art Museum. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call (413) 562-0716 or visit www.westath.org.

YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR CAMPER may be worth more as a donation than a trade-in. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind at (888) 613-2777 for more information. Towing is free. All donations are tax deductible.

PIONEERS, from page 19

I used to watch this team play when I was younger and one of my dreams was to play for them some day. It's just an awesome feeling and hopefully we can make the playoffs this year."

The Pioneers are hoping to be one of 16 teams that qualify for the National Tournament, which is set up similar to the NCAA Men's basketball Tournament.

"There are four different regions. The regional winners will then play against each other in a National semifinal and championship match," Kolodziey said. "If we can qualify for the tournament, we'll be in the Eastern bracket. It's a brand new format and all of the details haven't been worked out yet."

The other three Pioneers goals against Milford were scored by forward Thiago Andrade, forward Brandon Wilson, and midfielder Pat Ryan.

Another scoring threat for the Pioneers will be midfielder Alpha Dioubate, who's from Queens, N.Y., and is currently a member of the men's soccer team at Central Conn. State University.

"Alpha is a first-year player for us," Molinari said. "He's very fast and he's a very strong soccer player. I watched him play in college last year."

The Pioneers will have three new goal-



Turley Publications photo by David Henry sweetdogphotos.com

The Pioneers open their season at home against Seacoast on Friday night.

keepers this season. They are Ryan Jones, who plays at Syracuse University, Anthony Occhialini, who plays soccer at Central Conn. State University, and Warren Gross, who plays soccer at Penn. St.

"All three of our goalies are very good," Molinari said. "All three of them played in the scrimmage today and I'm going to take

my time naming a starter for our season opener on Friday night."

The Pioneers will also be facing Boston (May 18) and Vermont (May 23) at home before making the short trip down the Mass. Pike to Worcester to face Hydra, who's a first-year team on May 26.

Tickets for all of the Pioneers home games

are available at the gate. Adult ticket prices are \$9 and children (under 17) prices are \$6.

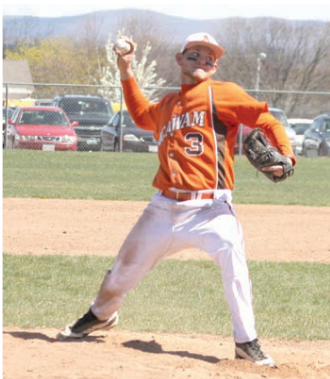
Tim Peterson is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at dforbes@turley.com.



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Veterans Workforce Summit at WNEU

SPRINGFIELD - Veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces are a wealth of talent, including many job skills that are needed by private employers in many industries. But matches between highly skilled veterans and the companies that need them aren't always easy to make. While there are some laws and federal requirements pertaining to the hiring of Veterans, millions of former servicemen and women still have difficulty finding work, and many employers are not fully informed about veteran programs. This summit will address Veteran-specific actions that can and should be part of any company's hiring practices. The Veterans Workforce Summit will take place Wednesday, June 6 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Rivers Memorial Hall at Western New England University and will include panels of experts from government and the business sector. This event will educate employers about the many benefits in employing veterans, including tax incentives. Participants will share ideas and discuss the support resources available to hire, retain, and promote Veterans. All employers will benefit, from small businesses to large employers. Go to vetsroi.com to register for this free summit.

The program is sponsored by the city of Springfield Veterans Services Department, Department of Veterans Affairs, Western New England University, and Springfield College along with other partners.



Is happy to announce that as of May 1, 2012 we are now accepting the

Fallon Community Health Plan





TOURNEY CHAMP



Turley Publications courtesy photo

Angela Garvin, 11, is pictured here with Connecticut Section Tournament Director Sally Sohn.

Angela Garvin, 11, of Feeding Hills, a Junior member of the Ranch Golf Club in Southwick, won the first Connecticut Section PGA Junior Golf Tournament held May 5 at Willow Brook Golf course in South Windsor Conn. Angela competed in the 10-12 combined boys/girls division. There was no separate girls' division so Angela competed with the boys. She had 8 pars and a bogey to shoot a one over par 31, getting her into the play-off. She pared the first two holes in the playoff to win, beating all the boys.

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